



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP

Australian Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

T14/07

22 February 2007

TURNBULL WORKS FOR BURRUP SOLUTION

The Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Malcolm Turnbull MP today announced he would consult fully with key stakeholders on the Burrup Peninsula so that a long-term heritage solution can be found.

“We have made enormous progress on the issue of National Heritage listing for the Dampier Archipelago, including the Burrup Peninsula. The Australian Government is committed to developing heritage management arrangements to protect the outstanding National Heritage values of the petroglyphs and standing stones in the area,” Mr Turnbull said.

“As the new Environment Minister I intend to consult with the Western Australian Government, Indigenous and industry groups and other relevant parties to ensure the long term protection of the area’s heritage values and national interests. The *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* provides me with this opportunity.”

“I appreciate the strong public interest that exists and I want to emphasise that the Australian Government is continuing to work towards a National Heritage listing for this important place. Establishing an appropriate boundary and coming to an agreement about management arrangements are the crucial steps towards a listing.”

“By reaching agreement on these issues we will achieve the most significant outcome for heritage protection in this country and show that the National Heritage listing does not come at the expense of Australia’s economic prosperity - the two can co-exist to the advantage of all Australians.”

“Taking the time to properly consult on the proposed boundary and to reach an understanding on the management arrangements for the place is key to the long-term protection of the Dampier Archipelago. I will build on the progress already achieved by my colleague Senator Ian Campbell.”

“The Burrup Peninsula is an extraordinary place. As Minister for this important portfolio one of my key priorities is to make a decision on the Burrup by the middle of this year. However, it is in everyone’s interest that we work together to deliver the best management system possible.”

Media Contact: Sarah Stock 0404 848 186