

The Sunday Times

July 16, 2006

Save rock art

HOW much do we value our heritage? Woodside Petroleum wants to move Aboriginal rock art that is 20,000 years old to make way for a liquefied natural gas plant. It has asked the State Government to lift heritage protection over the area on the Burrup Peninsula.

This could set a dangerous precedent. Where do we, as a community, draw the line?

Allowing this to happen would be like knocking over Rome's Coliseum or England's Stonehenge in the interests of economic development.

The Government needs to take a stand and protect all the ancient rock art — not just 60 per cent as Environment Minister Mark McGowan has announced — so that we have some heritage left 20,000 years from now.