

Question On Notice No. 6220 asked in the **Legislative Council** on **9 April 2008** by **Hon Giz Watson**

Question Directed to the: **Minister for Local Government** representing the **Minister for Indigenous Affairs**

Minister responding: **Hon M.H. Roberts**

Parliament: 37 Session: 1

Question

With regard to the Burrup Peninsula, Dampier Archipelago and Indigenous Heritage and the major valley that transects site Pluto B in SE-NW transect, I ask –

(1) Given the instability of the rock slopes due to a relatively recent rock slide in the major valley that transects site B in SE-NW direction, what methods will be used to ensure slope stability in this valley during construction work and blasting?

(2) What methods will be used in this valley to protect and retrieve high value rock art at the base of this valley, (which in some cases is already partially covered by previous rockslides), from any further scree slippage?

The Department of Indigenous Affairs advises:

1. Woodside has advised it is not aware of any recent rock slide in the major valley that transects site B.
2. Woodside uses a variety of methods across site B including sand bagging, fencing and temporarily covering rock art to ensure it is protected during relocation and construction activities. In addition Woodside has operational systems in place to ensure heritage sites within the dedicated conservation and relocation zones remain undisturbed including the valley slopes. To date Woodside has complied with conditions attached to the consent under section 18 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act, 1972* for the Pluto project.