

EPA Bulletin 1228 - Development of Industrial Land on the Burrup Peninsula for Future Gas Development

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The Environmental Protection Authority has provided advice and recommendations to the Minister for the Environment; Racing and Gaming on Woodside Energy Ltd's proposal to develop Industrial Land on the Burrup Peninsula.

EPA Chairman Dr Wally Cox said that having regard to the management framework for the Burrup Peninsula it is unlikely that the EPA's objectives would be compromised provided there is satisfactory implementation by the proponent of their commitments and the recommended conditions.

"In practical terms, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage values and the natural environmental values can be readily achieved in the proposed conservation area on the Burrup Peninsula," Dr Cox said.

"The EPA's objective is to ensure that conservation objectives are met in the context of the wider Burrup Peninsula and environmental impacts caused by the proposal are minimised and managed as far as is reasonably practicable.

"If approved the proposal will result in the permanent loss of native vegetation, fauna habitat and some indigenous heritage sites

"However, the disturbance footprint has been selected and optimised to avoid the most environmentally sensitive sections of the proposed site and impacts have been minimised to the extent practicable."

The EPA's report is subject to appeal until close of business 18 September 2006 and available at www.epa.wa.gov.au.

Appeals are considered by the independent Appeals Convenor (9220 8711). The Convenor prepares a report for the Minister for Environment, Racing and Gaming on any appeals that may be received. The Minister then takes into consideration both the EPA's and the Convenor's report when making his final decision on any proposal.

The EPA is a five person board providing independent overarching environmental advice to the Minister for the Environment; Racing and Gaming through the preparation of environmental protection policies and the assessment of development proposals and management plans, as well as providing public statements about matters of environmental importance.

The EPA is supported by the EPA Service Unit. This Unit sits administratively within the Department of Environment and Conservation but for EPA matters is under the control of the EPA.

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