Dear Minister

The State of Western Australia and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC), which represents the traditional owners of the area, have been working collaboratively with the Commonwealth Government to conserve and protect the extraordinary cultural values of the Burrup Peninsula and Dampier Archipelago in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

These values are already acknowledged as being of outstanding heritage value to the nation and are recognised and protected for their National Heritage significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. It is timely that these values are now considered for their potential Outstanding Universal Value in accordance with the World Heritage Convention.

Following ongoing dialogue between MAC and the State of Western Australia, we have agreed to progress a nomination of the Burrup Peninsula and Dampier Archipelago for World Heritage recognition.

MAC and the Western Australian Government wish to work with the Commonwealth Government and relevant stakeholders, to commence the World Heritage nomination process by preparing and submitting a tentative list submission for consideration by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Committee.
We understand that Australia is represented on the UNESCO World Heritage Committee until 2021 and Australia has given an undertaking not to progress any further nominations for World Heritage, other than the existing Budj Bim nomination, during its term on the Committee. Commencement of a tentative list submission process now, and the preparation of a World Heritage nomination upon inclusion on the tentative list, could align with the timing of these commitments.

The progression of a successful nomination for World Heritage of the Burrup Peninsula and Dampier Archipelago will be challenging, however, we look forward to working in partnership with the Commonwealth and others, to bring international recognition to the unique and outstanding values of the area.

Yours sincerely

Mark McGowan MLA
PREMIER

Peter Jeffries
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MURUJUGA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Acknowledged by representatives of Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation's five member groups:

THE NGARLUMA PEOPLE

THE YINJIBARNDI PEOPLE

THE YABURARA PEOPLE

THE MARDUDHUNERA PEOPLE

THE WONG-GOO-TT-OO PEOPLE