

RED HILL QUARRY — INDIGENOUS HERITAGE ISSUES

2654. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

I refer to the answers to question on notice No's 2147 and 2149, regarding Indigenous Heritage Sites 20060 and 24125, and ask —

- (1) Mattner, AIC and the answer to question No. 2149 all offer different GPS points for Site 24125, and in one instance co-locate it with Site 20060. Will the Minister please clarify the discrepancies amongst the recorded locations of Site 24125?
- (2) Will the Minister direct the Department to investigate these different site locations?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) Regarding site 20060, can the Minister tell us the current location of the quartz artefacts?
- (5) If no to (4), will the Minister direct the Department to investigate the location of the quartz artefacts?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

1. DIA 24125 (Red Hill Rockshelter) was originally recorded by Mr Joe Mattner in 2007, who provided a GPS coordinate for the location of the site. The coordinate provided by Mr Mattner is 412433mE 6478693mN. This is the location of the site provided on the Register of Aboriginal Sites ("the Register").  
  
In 2008, Australian Interaction Consultants (AIC) recorded a rockshelter and provided the GPS location of 412138mE 6479366. In an associated report, AIC claimed that the location provided is the location of DIA 24125 (Red Hill Rockshelter). However, the GPS location provided by AIC is located approximately 725m NNE of the location provided by Mr Mattner for DIA 24125 (Red Hill Rockshelter). The location provided by AIC coincides with the recording of a previously recorded yet unregistered site known as Susannah Brook Rockshelter. Based on the information available, the rockshelter recorded by AIC is different to the one recorded by Mr Mattner and appears on the Register as DIA 26189 (Susannah Brook Rockshelter).
2. No.
3. I am satisfied that the details of the rockshelters, inclusive of spatial locations recorded by Mr Mattner and AIC, are accurately reflected on the Register.
4. The quartz artefacts were reported by Mr Mattner as being located at 412758mE 6478832mN and 412575mE 6478628mN, however, it is acknowledged that representatives from AIC visited these locations provided by Mr Mattner and did not find any quartz artefacts.
5. DIA 20060 has been assessed by the Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee as not meeting the criteria of section 5 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 and is therefore not considered an Aboriginal heritage site.