

**From:**

**Sent:** Wednesday, 8 June 2022 4:14 PM

**To:** NTEPA Consult <NTEPA.Consult@nt.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: Update - Invite to comment - NT EPA Draft Guidelines - Culture and Heritage Factor and Atmospheric Process Factor

Good afternoon,

I have reviewed the NT EPA Draft Guidelines - Culture and Heritage Factor and Atmospheric Process Factor and provide the following heritage comments:

- As a technical guidance document, these draft guidelines sufficiently outline the requirements and considerations in assessing the significance and impacts of a proposed action in relation to cultural and heritage factors.
- The legal context and the definitions of the various environments cultural aspects are well documented and the legislative mechanisms to protect cultural heritage values are all relevant and correct.
- There is one small amendment that I suggest be made under the **Heritage Act 2011 (NT)** section on page 8. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph there is the line "These are defined as places that 'relate to the past occupation of the Territory by Aboriginal or Macassan people' and include rock art, deposits left by past occupation and burial remains". I suggest the term burial remains is changed to burial (ancestral) remains. Technically, the definition of a relic under the NT Heritage Act includes human skeletal remains, but more recently we have adopted the term ancestral remains to better reflect the sensitivity of the matter.
- Apart from that one small suggestion, Heritage Branch approves of these Draft Guidelines. All relevant requirements and considerations in relation to cultural heritage have been satisfactorily addressed in this document.

Regards,

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