

The Jordan River Levee Site

Consultation

- DIER has produced a detailed report describing the consultation that occurred with the Aboriginal community throughout the heritage investigation. This report demonstrates that DIER strived to do more than was ever required from the outset of the investigation.
- Aboriginal Heritage Officers (AHOs) are employed to work alongside archaeologists so that they can communicate information relating to the investigation back to their community. They are considered to be the conduit between the archaeologist and the Aboriginal community.
- Due to the size of the project DIER employed two AHOs on the detailed surface survey and three AHOs on the subsurface investigation. It was the role of the AHOs to provide information back to the community and materials were provided to facilitate this.
- From the outset DIER provided all information relevant to the investigation which has enabled the community to remain fully informed. This was the exception rather than the rule at the time.
- When it became apparent that important values were being identified in the levee the Aboriginal community withdrew support for the investigation. They demanded a greater role in decision making in relation to heritage investigations and permits.
- The Government agreed to a more inclusive role for the Aboriginal community and this has become an integral part of an evolving process of consultation between proponents and the Aboriginal community.
- DIER continued to consult with key Aboriginal organisations throughout and after the investigation on the Jordan River levee. All documentation, mapping and reports have been provided to the Aboriginal community as they have become available.



CONTACT

Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources

GPO Box 1002, Hobart, Tasmania, 7001

www.dier.tas.gov.au



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