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## **No need for Federal duplication of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage protections**

AMEC strongly opposes the extension or duplication of WA's Aboriginal cultural heritage legislation at a Federal level.

"Western Australia's new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage laws are far-reaching and the most demanding of any in Australia," AMEC CEO Warren Pearce said.

The Federal Government committed to delivering new national cultural heritage laws in response to the destruction of the Juukan Gorge, but is yet to clearly articulate how it plans to proceed in this area.

Currently, it appears further protections may be included as part of the Government's review of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation ACT (EPBC).

"The mining and exploration industry cannot support new Federal legislation that increases requirements on companies, or duplicates existing State protections," AMEC CEO Warren Pearce said.

"All that will do is add more time and cost to industry, slow exploration and project development, and ultimately deny opportunities for regional and remote Australia."

"There is simply no need for more Federal legislation to protect Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in Western Australia."

"At a bare minimum, the Federal Government should wait to see how the implementation of Western Australia's new Act plays out, before further encroaching on this highly complex and contentious area."

ENDS

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