

MEDIA RELEASE

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3 baby Bilbies captured on camera in Kimberley

At risk from Woodside Petroleum bulldozers

3 baby Bilbies caught on camera over the weekend at James Price Point in the Kimberley are under immediate threat of bulldozing.

The exciting new find now confirms a significant population at the site of planned bulldozing for investigations into a \$30 billion gas hub at James Price Point in the Kimberley.

The baby Bilbies are in addition to an adult found outside a burrow a week ago.

Conservationists are calling again on the Federal Environment Minister to intervene to stop the bulldozing of the site and undertake investigations into the Bilby population to make sure it is not harmed by landclearing.

“The Federal Environment Minister Tony Burke has the powers to protect Bilbies under Commonwealth environmental laws. We urge him to use his powers immediately, before the bulldozer kills any endangered animals,” said Environs Kimberley Director Martin Pritchard.

“Last week we requested that Minister Burke take urgent action to protect this threatened species by putting a stop-work order on Woodside and by sending Commonwealth environment officers to investigate the site. Unfortunately we have yet to receive an official response” Mr Pritchard said.

After \$80 million worth of environmental studies by Woodside, including \$3.848 million paid to AECOM Australia to prepare environmental studies and reports, the company claimed that no resident Bilby colonies were to be found at the project area, despite evidence such as burrows and diggings in a government report.

“We have requested Woodside stop landclearing so that the Bilby population is protected, we have yet to receive a response,” said Mr Pritchard.

Footage and still photos of a Bilby at the site were taken on the weekend by an ecologist and community members concerned about the proposed works.

For further comment: Martin Pritchard 0427 548 075

Footage and stills available on request.