

The February 2007 meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWA) was held at Lithgow. The Committee agreed to a focussed approach to its tasks and agreed that the themes and structuring of future meetings were to reflect co-management; climate change including monitoring and reporting; and presentation, interpretation and visitation.

The Committee accepted with regret the resignation of Leigh Williams, a local government representative on the Committee; endorsed the Chair's leave of absence to work at [ICOMOS](#) in Paris for 3-4 months and elected Richard Mackay as Acting Chair.



The Director of the [Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute](#) (BMWHI), John Merson outlined the projects of the BMWHI; David Brazil presented the [Blue Mountains Conservation Society](#) issues of the proposed Emirates development; and Tony Williams, Joost Heymeijer and Tony Burg presented the Emirates Eco resort proposal and responded to issues raised by the Committee.

The Committee resolved to:

- form a sub-committee to deal with Emirates issues between Committee meetings.
- form a sub-committee to review the [Jenolan Caves Karst Conservation Reserves draft Plan of Management](#) and Summary of Submissions;
- congratulate the NSW Government on the creation of the Wild Rivers in the Wollemi NP and request that the other three Wild Rivers identified in the NPWS Assessment of the Wollemi Wilderness, be considered.

Committee members had the opportunity to view the proposed Emirates site in a short flyover of the Wolgan Valley.

Committee members Haydn Washington, Julia James, Wendy Lewis and Judy Smith with Tony Bura (2nd from left) from Emirates.



The GBMWA Advisory Committee is made up of scientific, technical, Aboriginal and community members appointed by the State and Commonwealth Environment Ministers. The Strategic Plan for the Area is used by the Committee to guide its operations and in providing advice to those Ministers regarding issues relevant to the Area.

The Advisory Committee meets quarterly in different locations around the million hectares of spectacular national parks and reserves that comprise the GBMWA, recognised and protected for its outstanding universal values.

For more information contact the World Heritage Executive Officer
by telephone on (02) 4784 7326 or via email to gmb.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au