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MEDIA RELEASE

Rock recovery project a great success: Minister

The Minister for the Environment, the Hon Stephanie Jack MLA, has announced the end of the current phase of the Middlegate rock recovery project, and has thanked supervisor Don Simpson and all concerned for their excellent work.

Earlier this week, Mr Simpson showed staff of *The Norfolk Islander* the large stockpiles of rock and other materials at Middlegate, as well as three sites which had been cleared of stockpiles of rock and earth at Youngs Road (Aunt Lil's stockpile), Banyan Park and next to the police station. The sites have been levelled and will be resown with seed when the weather is suitable.

Mrs Jack said that the substantial stockpiles of high-grade rock at the lower oval site in Middlegate would help to ensure supplies of rock for crushing for well into the future. "I am pleased to inform the community that there is a substantial quantity of high quality rock now stored at Middlegate for future use", Mrs Jack said. "The site also contains stockpiles of smaller grade rock for a variety of uses, as well as roadbase and topsoil which will be used to revegetate the oval once the rock stockpiles have been removed. As well, batters have been built and drainage provided to allow for the future restoration of the lower school oval".

The Minister said that the majority of the work had been carried out at no cost to the community or Administration under the terms of a confidential settlement with the contractor from the Cascade Cliff safety project. She believed that the outcome of the whole project was very satisfactory and was pleased that the sites of the three stockpiles could now be restored for more appropriate future use.

Stephanie V Jack
Minister for the Environment

17th February 2006