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Satellite based natural settlement studies

With reference to a recent press report about Palm Island quoting a Fugro NPA employee, Fugro NPA Ltd. wants to clarify the following.

Fugro NPA undertakes ground movement studies using a new satellite based technique. Amongst others, this method may be used to monitor natural settlement following large construction projects.

One such experimental study undertaken by Fugro NPA at its own cost and initiative also included a number of points on the Palm Island development over the first few years since its construction. As communicated by Fugro NPA in their presentation of this example, settlement is a normal occurrence following construction. No conclusion can be drawn about the long term. The point displacements measured at Palm Island in the first few years following construction (less than a centimetre per year) are well within the expected natural settlement range for such a large structure and such settlement would be factored into the engineering design of the island.

NEWS RELEASE

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