

EXHIBITION OF STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT MODIFICATION APPLICATION

Sydney Opera House Forecourt Events – Operational Updates

Application No	DA 445-10-2003 MOD 5
Location	Sydney Opera House, Bennelong Point
Applicant	Sydney Opera House Trust
Council Area	City of Sydney
Consent Authority	Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

Description of the current development consent

Use of the Southern Forecourt and Monumental Steps to hold temporary performing arts/community events and functions, including the following relevant operational measures:

- A maximum capacity of 6000 patrons
- A maximum of 99 event days in total with the following maximums for event durations:
 - 3 x 20-day events
 - 5 x 11-day events
- Hours of operation from 8am to 12 midnight
- Playing of amplified music from 10am to 11pm with the following front of house noise limits for a typical forecourt event:
 - 92dB(A) Leq (5 mins) and 102 db(C) Leq (5mins)
 - An additional 5dB increase subject to performances not lasting more than 4 hours and music ceasing by 10pm

Description of proposed modification

Operational updates to Southern Forecourt events including:

- Increasing maximum capacity from 6000 to 7000 patrons
- Maintaining the 99-day event total per year with the following adjustments to event durations (currently 3 x 20-day and 5 x 11-day events):
 - 2 x 25-day events
 - 1 x 16-day events
 - 4 x 11-day events
- Increasing hours of operation (previously 8am to 12 midnight) to:
 - 7am to 12:30 am Monday to Friday
 - 8am to 12:30 am Saturday and Sunday
- New noise limits of 97dB(A) Leq (5 mins) and 107 db(C) Leq (5 mins) between 10am and 11pm (currently 92dB(A) Leq (5 mins) and 102db(C) Leq (5mins) between 10am and 11pm plus an additional 5dB for a 4 hour duration between 10am and 10pm)

About the exhibition

An exhibition process allows any individual or organisation to have their say about a proposed development.

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (the department) has received an application to modify the abovementioned approved State significant development (SSD). The application and accompanying documents (including the modification report) are on exhibition from **Wednesday, 6 May 2026** until **Tuesday, 19 May 2026**. You can view these documents online at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects.

Have your say

To have your say on this project, you must lodge a submission online through the NSW Planning Portal before the close of exhibition.

To do this, search for this project at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects and click on 'Make a submission'. You will need to log in or create a user account.



Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Resources to help you use the NSW Planning Portal are available at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/help. If you require assistance making a submission through the portal, please contact the Department's customer support team on 1300 305 695.

If you think you'll need help making a submission using the portal, it's a good idea to contact customer support sooner rather than later. Ensure you give yourself plenty of time to make a submission before the project's exhibition end date.

You cannot upload a submission on behalf of another person.

Before making your submission: You should read the department's:

- Disclaimer and declaration at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/help/disclaimer-and-declaration, and
- Privacy statement at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/privacy.

Your submission will be published on the NSW Planning Portal in accordance with our privacy statement and disclaimer and declaration. You can elect to have your name withheld from the published list of submitters. If you choose this option, do not include personal information in the body of your submission or in any attachments as your submission will be published in full.

When making a submission you will be required to include:

- your name and address
- the name of the application and the application number
- a statement on whether you 'support' or 'object' to the proposal or if you are simply providing comment
- the reasons why you support or object to the proposal
- a declaration of any reportable political donations you have made in the last two years (visit www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Assess-and-Regulate/Development-Assessment/Planning-Approval-Pathways/Donations-and-Gift-Disclosure or phone 1300 305 695 to find out more)
- an acknowledgement that you accept the department's [disclaimer and declaration](#).

For more information, including the department's submissions policy, please go to www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/have-your-say.

For more information about the project: Contact Janith De Silva on T 02 9274 6127 or janith.desilva@planning.nsw.gov.au

If you require assistance to use the Planning Portal or you are having difficulty making a submission online, please call the Department's customer support team on 1300 305 695.
