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Mr Joel Herbert  
Planning Officer  
Resource Assessments - Planning Services  
Department of Planning and Environment  
via email: joel.herbert@environment.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Herbert

### **Ardmore Park Quarry - Modification 3**

Thank you for notifying the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) that the environmental assessment for this modification is currently on public exhibition. We have reviewed the proposal and provide the following comments.

#### **Biodiversity**

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for this modification stated that the modification is to be assessed and documented in accordance with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA), by an accredited person.

We advise however that the Flora and Fauna report, by Kevin Mills & Associates, does not apply the FBA method. Nor is Kevin Mills an accredited person in accordance with the FBA requirements. Although Kevin Mills' assessment deems the impact area to be exotic non-native vegetation, the FBA method nevertheless requires the consultant to assess the biodiversity values up to, and including, section 5.3.3 of the FBA regardless. This includes conducting a plot-based full floristic survey of the development site to confirm and document whether the vegetation is exotic or not.

#### **Aboriginal cultural heritage**

The report states that the proposed extraction area extension has been redesigned to occur in a zone of low archaeological potential and is unlikely to impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage values. However this statement is not supported by an archaeological survey or investigation. It is therefore not possible to determine its validity.

One option to resolve this is to engage a qualified archaeologist to review the environmental assessment to ensure that Aboriginal cultural heritage values will not be impacted as part of this modification.

We also recommend that the 2010 Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (AHMP) be updated by a qualified archaeologist to confirm that all required management measures have been undertaken since the commencement of construction activities and to reflect any new measures resulting from

the modification. We suggest that the requirement to update the AHMP be included in the Statement of Commitments.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this letter, please contact Allison Treweek on 6229 7082 or by email [Allison.treweek@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Allison.treweek@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



16.02.18

**MICHAEL SAXON**  
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