

Our Ref: 21035 –SPCC BDAR 10 Lomas Lane, Nulkaba – MJD Environmental Response to RFI
Via: email

Date: 4 November 2022

Attn: Rebecca Johnston
Partner and Planning Manager
Barr Planning,
92 Young St,
Carrington, NSW, 2294

Dear Rebecca

RE: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ST PHILLIPS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CESSNOCK CAMPUS – CESSNOCK LGA (SSD-10360337)

MJD Environmental has been engaged by Barr Planning Pty to prepare a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) for the land over Lots 1 DP 126765 and 1 DP 744377, 10 Lomas Lane, Nulkaba, NSW, submitted 21st February 2022. This letter has been prepared with regard to the request for further information (RFI) issued by the Hunter Central Coast Branch of the Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD), dated 27th March 2008 (SSD-10360337), in relation to the BDAR. The RFI was prepared initially on 6th May 2022 in relation to the BDAR which has since been updated due to revision of the subject land boundary, as requested by the proponent. Therefore this RFI relates to the BDAR as finalised 4th November 2022.

In response to the RFI from BCD amendments have been made within the BDAR document to be resubmitted, with responses/further information provided below:

1. *The BDAR needs to meet the minimum requirements for information, maps, tables, and data detailed in Table 24 of the Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020 to enable detailed review by BCD.*
 - *Data including plot field data, plot field data sheets, GIS coordinates, shapefiles and report maps as separate .jpeg files are missing.*

Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) plot data is included within the BDAR, see Appendix B which includes all structural and functional data, and Appendix C which includes all floristics. BAM plot data is collected digitally therefore no BAM plot data sheets are included within the report. Relevant information is provided in the appendices listed above. Shapefiles, report maps and relevant .jpegs are included in the BAM data package prepared and submitted to Cessnock City Council (CCC) directly at the time of project finalisation. This data package will be resubmitted to CCC in response to the resubmission of this BDAR to reflect amendment impacts.

Information such as the GIS shapefiles of updated stream order buffers have been included in the data package and resent to CCC as part of this RFI.

- *The BAM calculator has not been submitted via the Biodiversity Offsets and Agreement Management System (BOAMS).*

The BAM project was submitted via BOAMS to the listed consent authority (CCC) on 21st January 2022 at the time of finalisation. Hunter Regional Planning Team (DPIE) has since been added as a case party, as part of the preparation of this RFI.

As the Biodiversity Offsets and Agreement Management System (BOAMS) case was reopened to facilitate this BDAR amendment, this case was finalised as part of this submission 4th November 2022.

- *Figures and tables should include all relevant details listed in Table 24. For example, the Site and/or Location Map should include the IBRA region and subregion and areas of connectivity.*

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Figure 1 has been updated to include the IBRA and subIBRA, as well as connectivity and watercourses, within the figure and figure legend. Figure 2 has been amended to include watercourse buffers, as per table 14, Appendix E, BAM 2020. Relevant buffers applied and stream order categories are included in the figure legend.

- *The vegetation survey guide reference in the BDAR is out of date.*

Updates have been made in text with the BDAR, see page 8 Section 3.2 Methodology: Field Assessment, and relevant amendments to the bibliography, page 48.

- *Inadequate discussions of waterways and wetlands*

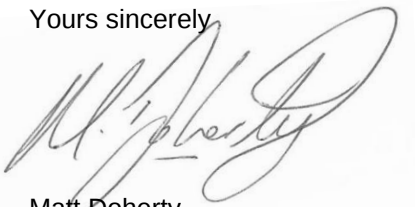
Updates have been made to the BDAR; see text amendments page 5, section 2.1.3 Rivers, Streams, Estuaries and Wetlands. Information regarding the number of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Strahler order streams within the 1500 m buffer of the subject land has been included, as well as required riparian buffers and discussion of wetlands within proximity to the subject land.

There are an additional four points which have been raised by BCD however these do not relate to the BDAR and will be addressed by other technical reports.

MJD Environmental has amended the BDAR and subsequently re-finalised the document to reflect the requirements as raised by BCD. Though this project would qualify for the small area module as per Table 12, Appendix C of BAM 2020, a full BDAR assessment has been conducted due to the Major Projects qualification, ensuring a thorough assessment of biodiversity impacts of the proposal.

We trust this is sufficient for your purposes, however should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Coral Pearce (Senior Ecologist) or the writer.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Doherty', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Matt Doherty
Director
MJD Environmental