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Mr Stephen O'Donoghue Team Leader Department of Planning & Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email: <u>stephen.odonoghue.planning.nsw.gov.au</u>

Dear Mr O'Donoghue

RE: Heritage Council comments on Narrabri Gas Project Environmental Impact Statement (SSD 6456)

I refer to the letter dated 15 February 2017 from Michael Goodall (GHD Pty Ltd) inviting comments on the Narrabri Gas Project State Significant Development EIS for development and operation of a natural gas production field including construction of gas wells, gas and watering gathering systems, and supporting infrastructure (e.g. access tracks, worker accommodation, etc).

The following comments are provided:

- The proposed gas extraction works within the project area would not have a physical impact on any heritage places listed on the State Heritage Register or the *Narrabri Local Environmental Plan 2012*;
- Although a number of historic sites with potential heritage significance have been identified through research and field survey, the proposal aims to avoid physical disturbance to many of these sites, including a sample of timber extraction sites and timber loading sites. This is appropriate conservation and is supported. The recommendations contained in Section 8 of the *Historic Heritage Impact Assessment* (AECOM, 3 November 2016) should form the basis of a condition of consent to manage historic heritage;
- Whilst it is acknowledged that the Johnston's Albion Sawmill has been substantially disturbed, the site should also be mapped and undergo photographic archival recording considering its historical use. A future consent condition should modify the recommended mitigation measures in Section 8 of the *Historic Heritage Impact Assessment* to incorporate mapping and recording of Johnston's Albion Sawmill; and

 Within the eight sites found to be of potential local heritage significance, areas of archaeological potential were also identified. No other archaeological sites were identified. As the project is avoiding impact to all potential locally significant sites, no archaeological sites are predicted to be impacted by the project. It is recommended that an unexpected finds protocol for archaeological sites be included in the Heritage Management Plan for the project.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Anna London, Heritage Assets Officer, via email: <u>anna.london@environment.nsw.gov.au</u> or on telephone: 9873 8608.

Yours sincerely

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RAJEEV MAINI Acting Manager, Conservation Heritage Division Office of Environment & Heritage As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW 22 May 2017

cc: Michael Goodall, EIS Coordinator, GHD Pty Ltd: michael.goodall@ghd.com