



**Industry &  
Investment**

BN10/3040

Mr Sam Haddad  
Director General  
NSW Department of Planning  
Level 1, 23-33 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

20 NOV. 2010

Dear Mr Haddad

I refer to the proposed expansion of National Ceramics Industries Australia's (NCIA) tile manufacturing facilities at Rutherford.

Industry & Investment NSW (I&I NSW) is concerned that the proposed new residential development (Heritage Gardens) adjacent to the Rutherford industrial estate could jeopardise potential growth of NCIA's manufacturing facility. Additionally it has the potential to impact on the expansion of existing businesses that operate from the Rutherford industrial estate.

The NCIA facility currently employs 50 staff and produces 18,000 square metres of tiles per day. The proposed expansion represents an investment of \$65 million with the potential for 50 construction jobs and 70 additional ongoing staff.

The Rutherford industrial estate employs approximately 1000 people and is considered a major employment zone in the Hunter.

It would be appreciated if you could ensure that land use and economic development factors are taken into consideration by your department during the assessment process, not only for NCIA's proposed development but also for the broader economic impact on surrounding businesses operating from this industrial zone.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Tony Sansom, I&I NSW Regional Director, Regional Development, Tourism & Primary Industries on (02) 4908 7333.

Yours sincerely

**B D BUFFIER**  
Deputy Director General