



Our ref: DOC21/17008

Mr Bruce Zhang
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Industry Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

By email: bruce.zhang@environment.nsw.gov.au

Dear Bruce

Advice regarding Amendments to Environmental Impact Statement – State Significant Development – Kariong Sand and Soil Supplies Facility – (SSD – 8660) – Central Coast LGA

Thank you for your referral dated 14 January 2021, inviting comment from Heritage NSW (HNSW) in relation to the proposed Kariong Sand and Soil Supplies Facility (SSD 8660), located at 90 Gindurra Road (Lot 4 DP 227279), Somersby NSW.

HNSW has reviewed the new information, including the *Response to Submissions Report Kariong Sand and Soil Supplies, Sand, Soil and Building Materials Recycling Facility - SSD 8660*, dated 5 January 2021, prepared by Jackson Environment and Planning Pty Ltd and notes that no new information has been supplied by the applicant in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Previous advice and recommendations provided by HNSW on 24 September 2020, are included at Attachment A.

Please contact Rebecca Yit, Archaeologist at Heritage NSW, on 4927 3244 or rebecca.yit@environment.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions regarding this advice.

Yours sincerely

Dr Samantha Higgs
Senior Team Leader
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation - North
Heritage NSW

Date: 21 January 2021

1. An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan must be prepared and implemented for the project

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) should be prepared in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) and HNSW, to ensure any potential or newly identified Aboriginal sites located within the project area are appropriately managed and mitigated as required.

The ACHMP must include procedures for implementing the recommendation to fence the boundary of Lot 4 DP 227279 (ACHAR 2020: 29-30) to minimise potential impacts to the Aboriginal cultural heritage values identified in proximity to the project area.

HNSW recommends that an ACHMP be prepared and approved as a Condition of Consent, prior to any ground surface disturbance works being undertaken.

2. Re-survey of the southern half of the project area should occur following surface removal of vegetation

HNSW has reviewed the results of the field survey undertaken with the RAPs and noted the results were inconclusive as the effective coverage in the southern half of the project area was 0% due to heavy vegetation. The AR argues that the low-lying ground in the southern half of the project area precludes Aboriginal occupation in this part of the project area (AR 2020:33) and the likelihood of Aboriginal objects in this area is low. The extensive archaeological record and the significant Aboriginal cultural values of the immediate area and broader Somersby locality do not support this assumption. HNSW is of the view that the identification of potential Aboriginal sites being present in this part of the project area was prevented due to a lack of visibility.

HNSW recommends that survey of the southern half of the project area should occur following surface removal of vegetation. Procedures for vegetation removal must be prepared and included in the ACHMP.

3. An unexpected finds protocol should be prepared and included in the ACHMP

Any Aboriginal sites or objects identified during the survey must be managed in accordance with the protocols for newly identified sites in the ACHMP. An unexpected finds protocol should be prepared and included in the ACHMP to manage and mitigate impacts to any potential or newly identified Aboriginal sites following vegetation removal for survey and development-related ground disturbing works.