

Mick Fallon  
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Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

By email: [Mick.Fallon@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Mick.Fallon@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Fallon

**Response to Submission comments for Inland Rail - Narrabri to North Star (SSI 7474)**

Thank you for your referral inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) Response to Submissions (9 December 2019).

Heritage NSW, on behalf of the Heritage Council, have previously raised concerns of the proposed demolition of Gwydir River and Mehi River bridges as part of the Inland Rail Project. It is understood that ARTC has refined the design with the aim of addressing the several issues raised in submissions, while also minimising potential impacts. Therefore, Narrabri to North Star has been divided into two phases, the first of which is the preferred infrastructure (the subject of this referral). The Gwydir River and Mehi River bridges are no longer within the preferred infrastructure site but will part of the Stage 2 of Narrabri to North Star project.

Based on the above, the revised mitigation measures for Non-Aboriginal Heritage (EIS Id No. D9) provided in *Narrabri to North Star, Submissions Preferred Infrastructure Report*, prepared by ARTC 2019, are considered appropriate to guide Stage 1 of Inland Rail - Narrabri to North Star.

Heritage NSW would like to be consulted on Stage 2, specifically regarding the treatment of Gwydir River and Mehi River bridges. We would be happy to meet with you to assist progression this project.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Alexander Timms, Senior Heritage Officer at the Heritage NSW on telephone (02) 8837 6067 or at [Alexander.Timms@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Alexander.Timms@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely



**p.p. Tim Smith OAM**  
Director, Heritage Operations  
Heritage NSW  
Department of Premier and Cabinet  
**As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW**  
22 January 2020