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Dear Rose-anne

### **Bowden Silver Mine Amendment (SSD-5765) 500kV Transmission Line Re-alignment (SSD- 9679)**

Thank you for the opportunity for Heritage NSW (HNSW) to comment on the Aboriginal cultural heritage (ACH) assessment for the proposed Bowden Silver Mine Infrastructure amendment (SSD-5765), Central NSW.

HNSW has reviewed the ACH assessment for the proposed 500kV re-alignment prepared by Landskape Archaeology (in, RW Corkery 2021:20-23) and have not identified any significant issues. As you are aware, HNSW had submitted comments regarding the mine proposal and associated infrastructure which involved other parts of the proposed transmission line (DOC20/586040).

#### **Scale and scope of proposed re-alignment**

HNSW understand that the proposed amendment to the 500kV transmission line involves a modification to the original proposal of approximately 3km with construction focused within the mine site area and includes installation of 10 to 14 new steel towers. A 40m to 50m width easement of vegetation clearing easement is also proposed. Land use disturbance factors are reported as roads and mine disturbance.

#### **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

HNSW accept the assessment for Aboriginal cultural heritage for the proposed re-alignment undertaken by Landskape (2020a, 2020b in RW Corkery 2021). It is noted that the surveys of the proposed re-alignment section were undertaken with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP) and no Aboriginal objects were identified, consistent with the landform and Aboriginal site analysis predictions.

#### **Mitigation and management strategies (Corkery 2021:21)**

As per the previous ACH assessment recommendations, HNSW support the proposed management and mitigation measures which include protocols for managing areas of surface disturbance within the easement for the 500kV transmission line re-alignment. Notwithstanding land use disturbance history and the nil result for ACH findings, the construction activities associated with the proposal, vegetation clearing and tower installation, may potentially harm previously unseen Aboriginal objects. These activities must be considered when developing the unexpected finds protocol.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Phil Purcell, Archaeologist at Heritage NSW, on 68835341 or [phil.purcell@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:phil.purcell@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



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