



Our ref: DOC21/741988-12
Your ref: SSD-15221509

Jeffrey Peng
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Social Other Infrastructure Assessments
Energy Resource Assessment
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
email: jeffrey.peng@planning.nsw.gov.au

Advice provided via the Major Project Portal

Dear Mr Peng,

Notice of Exhibition – Woolworths WDC Wetherill Park, Fairfield City (SSD-15221509)

Thank you for your referral dated 25 August 2021 inviting comment from Heritage NSW on the Notice of Exhibition for construction and operation of the Woolworths Warehouse and Distribution Centre at Wetherill Park.

Heritage NSW has reviewed the following documents as part of our assessment:

- *Environmental Impact Statement: Proposed Construction and Operation of a Warehouse and Distribution Facility SSD-15221509 250 Victoria Street, Wetherill Park (Lots 1-4 DP781975)*, prepared by Fabcot Pty Limited, dated August 2021;
- Appendix 1 – Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued 26 March 2021;
- Appendix 18 – Aboriginal cultural heritage letter prepared by Artefact Heritage and dated 10 May 2021.

We provide the following comments in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation matters.

Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation review of EIS and Aboriginal cultural heritage letter

We note that the issued SEARs required preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR), a process of Aboriginal consultation and a description of the impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage. Artefact Heritage met with Heritage NSW on 21 April 2021 to discuss the SEARs. As a full ACHAR had already been prepared for the bulk earthworks development application, which was subsequently approved by Fairfield City Council, Heritage NSW supported a modified assessment process.

We note that a site visit was undertaken with a representative of the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) during which no Aboriginal objects or cultural values were identified within the project area. Sites in the surrounding 4km² area are predominantly artefact scatters that are concentrated along waterways. The project area is located 650m away from permanent water.

During the site visit it was established that the land of the project area is disturbed by previous activities including artificial terracing, use of imported fills, and concreting. The land was assessed to have nil to low Aboriginal archaeological potential.

Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation advice

While the proposed development appears to have low potential to impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage, we provide the following recommendations:

- An Unexpected Finds Protocol for Aboriginal objects needs to be prepared as part of the Construction Management Plan (CMP) for the site and be implemented during all development works.
- Any Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness inductions would benefit from the involvement of Aboriginal community representatives.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice please contact Sarah Robertson, Archaeologist, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation – South, at Heritage NSW on (02) 6229 7088 or via email at sarah.robertson@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Jackie Taylor

**Senior Team Leader, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation - South
Heritage NSW**

21 September 2021.