

Tegan Cole
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer
Energy Assessment

By email: tegan.cole@planning.nsw.gov.au

HNSW response to residual issues: Mount Pleasant Continued Operations, Muswellbrook LGA (SSD 10418).

Dear Tegan

Heritage NSW (HNSW) is in receipt of the response from MACH Energy (the proponent) on the Aboriginal cultural heritage (ACH) matters previously raised by HNSW (DOC21/554455-3) for the Mount Pleasant Continued Operations (SSD 10418).

HNSW accept and acknowledge the response from the proponent.

Summary of resolved residual matters.

Small portions of un-surveyed lands: Desktop assessment

HNSW is satisfied with the desktop assessment provided by the proponent and support the findings and recommendations (Niche 2021 Attachment B-1 Supplementary Desktop Analysis Report). HNSW concur with the proponent that the Niche recommendation be listed as a condition of consent.

HNSW is satisfied that this matter is concluded.

Test excavations associated with infrastructure development (Zone A2R-C Pre-disturbance test excavations)

HNSW acknowledge and accept the proponent's response on the timing and avoidance strategy about test excavations associated with infrastructure development. We concur with proponent that a condition of consent on this matter be added that is consistent with the advice provided by HNSW.

Potential scarred trees subject to reassessment

HNSW accept the response from the proponent on the scarred tree matter and we are pleased that the proponent will act in accordance with their responsibilities towards ACH (*National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*).

We remain available for assisting in an advisory role on any remaining residual matter for the Mount Pleasant Operations project so as to progress positive outcomes for ACH for example, final determination of the ACH Conservation Areas. If you have any questions

regarding the above advice, please contact Phil Purcell, Archaeologist at Heritage NSW on (02) 68835341 or phil.purcell@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SH' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Dr Samantha Higgs

Senior Team Leader
ACH Regulation, North
Heritage NSW
Department of Premier and Cabinet
30 September 2021