

From: [Nicole Davis](#)
To: [James McDonough](#)
Cc: [Nicole Davis](#)
Subject: Heritage NSW - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage - Dalswinton Sand and Gravel Quarry (SSD-9094) (Muswellbrook Shire) - 13 Feb 2022
Date: Sunday, 13 February 2022 9:48:13 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear James,

Heritage NSW has reviewed *Appendix K - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report, Dalswinton Quarry - Dalswinton NSW, RPS Australia, 12 May 2020*, with respect to Aboriginal cultural heritage as requested.

Heritage NSW understands that HDB on behalf of Rosebrook Sand & Gravel Pty Ltd (Dalswinton Quarry), engaged RPS to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR), as part of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to support a Development Application (DA) for a State Significant Development (SSD 9094). The project is for an extension/expansion of the quarrying operations of the Dalswinton Quarry on behalf of Rosebrook Sand and Gravel. The proponent wishes to expand the operations to the eastern part of the existing quarry site, as well as to rework the previously extracted areas to recover the fine aggregates which were previously returned to pits as reject material. This assessment is a requirement under the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued for the project. The Project Area comprises Lot 72 DP1199484, 511 Dalswinton Road, Dalswinton, NSW in the Muswellbrook Local Government Area (LGA).

Heritage NSW understands that the site has an extensive history of industrial land use. It is noted that the ACHAR may form part of the application for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP), that maybe required if the proposal will – directly or indirectly – harm an Aboriginal object, or a declared Aboriginal place. The Project Area is located in the valley at the base of Spur Hill which is north east of the Project Area; Wollombi National Park which is located to the south west and Baiame Caves to the south east and within close proximity to the Hunter River to the south. These places are connected through dreaming stories and connected sight lines to the Project Area are essential to retain connectedness. These landscapes are culturally significant through connection and due to the fact that Aboriginal People would have camped here. Five new Aboriginal objects were recorded, during the survey there is a moderate potential for further subsurface archaeological potential in the Project Area. Based on the information in the ACHAR, Heritage NSW broadly supports the following recommendations in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

- Recommendation 1: Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP)

A surface salvage of the three newly identified AHIMS sites (AHIMS # 37-2-6006, 37-2-6005 and 37-2-6004) is to be conducted under an approved Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP). A sub-surface archaeological investigation should also be undertaken to identify and salvage any potential sub-surface artefacts within the identified PAD.

- Heritage NSW notes that if the proposal is an approved SSD, that an AHIP is not required, and the above recommendation can be undertaken through the development and implementation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP). Heritage NSW did seek clarification for the applicant in relation to this issues and the associated DA (2/2/2022), however no response was received, as such, this advice stands.

Recommendations 2 to 4 are considered appropriate by Heritage NSW.

Heritage NSW has no additional comments or recommendations in relation to this proposal. Please contact me directly should, you require any additional information.

Kind Regards
Nicole Davis

Nicole Davis | Manager Assessments

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& Cabinet

I acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians and ancestors of the lands I work across.

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