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12 June 2025

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Return via Major Projects Portal

Attention: Anna Nowland

EPA Advice on Submissions Report - Taronga Zoo Sky Safari – SSD-46807958

Dear Anna

I am writing in response to your request for the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to review the Submissions and Amendment Report for the Taronga Zoo Sky Safari (Application SSD-46807958) at Taronga Zoo, Mosman.

The EPA has reviewed the following documents:

- *Taronga Zoo Sky Safari: Submissions and Amendment Report* – Prepared by Urbis – May 2025;
- *Appendix B: Updated Mitigation Measures RTS Revision 2* – Prepared by Urbis – April 2025;
- *Appendix T: Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (NVIA) RTS Revision 2* – Prepared by Acoustic Studio – April 2025; and
- *Appendix V: Water Management Plan RTS Revision 2* – Prepared by Meinhardt – April 2025.

The EPA understands the proposal with amendments includes:

- Site establishment works including removal of the former Sky Safari including the 9 existing pylons;
- The installation of a new 916m Sky Safari cable car system which will replace infrastructure along an existing cable car route;
- Site preparation, demolition, excavation, construction, and landscaping works, including of stations to be located at the upper and lower entrances of the premises; and
- The ongoing operation of the Sky Safari cable car system once installed.

Taronga Conservation Society Australia (**proponent**) currently holds Environment Protection Licence number 1677 (**Licence**) permitting the scheduled activity of sewage treatment at the premises. The current proposal relates to the premises at which the Licence applies. Any commitments made in the final EIS and Amendment Report may be formalised and placed as conditions on the Licence.

NSW Environment Protection Authority

As the environmental steward and regulator of our State we are committed to a sustainable future. Join us on our mission to protect tomorrow together.

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The EPA has previously considered the details of the proposal in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and provided comments and recommendations in our correspondence dated 8 November 2024 (EPA reference DOC24/777579-4).

The EPA has reviewed the Submissions and Amendment Report and notes that the proponent has not addressed all of EPA's earlier comments on this project.

The EPA has the following further comments and recommendations:

Matters to be addressed with conditions

1. Noise and Vibration Assessment Impact Assessment (NVIA)

The EPA has reviewed the revised NVIA and the Submissions and Amendment Report and notes the proponent's response to EPA's earlier comments regarding a detailed noise assessment. The EPA understands that as final mechanical plant types and locations are yet to be determined by the proponent, a detailed assessment has not been carried out. We also note the revised NVIA concludes that, providing the recommendations detailed within the report are correctly implemented, the proposal will be within noise limits for the closest sensitive receivers. However, the EPA considers that further detailed assessment remains warranted prior to construction to ensure selected plant types, locations, and mitigation measures are appropriate for the proposal.

The EPA recommends that DPHI requires that the proponent review and update their NVIA prior to the construction phase to include further detailed assessment once plant type and locations have been determined. This assessment should capture all noise sources related to the proposed development, with source noise levels, source locations, and effective height of the noise sources. This assessment should be used to inform detailed design advice for effective noise controls for construction and operational phases.

2. Surface and Wastewater Management

The EPA has reviewed the revised Water Management Plan (WMP) and the Submissions and Amendment Report, including the proponent's response to EPA's comments on the original EIS. The EPA notes that the proponent proposes to install sediment control measures at the Top Station during demolition, excavation and construction works to mitigate contamination of runoff entering the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), and that a water quality treatment device with Stormfilter Cartridges has been proposed for the Lower Station.

The EPA considers that our initial comments on the EIS have not been adequately addressed by the revised submission, and that further assessment remains warranted prior to construction to mitigate potential water quality impacts, and to ensure that the WWTP can adequately process excess surface water runoff as proposed.

As advised in our initial comments to the EIS, the EPA recommends that the proponent review and update the WMP and WWTP management and operation plans prior to construction to reflect the incorporation of wastewater from construction, demolition and excavation works for the Top Station into the WWTP. This should include consideration of the maximum available treatment capacity during all demolition, excavation and construction activities, and ensuring that all treatment processes remain fully operational during these times.

3. Land and soil contaminants

The EPA notes that our previous recommendations have been included in the Contamination Report and can be secured as conditions of consent.

The EPA has no further comment on this issue.

4. Waste Management

The EPA has reviewed the Operation Management Plan and notes items addressed in previous recommendations has been included.

The EPA has no further comment on this issue.

5. Dust Controls

The EPA has reviewed the Construction Management Plan and notes that items addressed in previous recommendations have been included and that further dust control measures will be detailed within a Construction Environmental Management Plan that can be secured through a condition of consent.

The EPA has no further comment on this issue.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Isabella Rambaldini on (02) 6883 5358 or by email at info@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



TREVOR WILSON
Manager Operations
Environment Protection Authority

cc: Janith De Silva, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure