

Our ref: HMS ID 12005

Brittany Golding
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
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Letter uploaded to the Major Projects Planning Portal

Advice on Environmental Impact Statement – State Significant Development

Proposal: Taronga Tin Mine

Major Project reference: SSD-74389710 **Received:** 2 October 2025

Dear Brittany,

Thank you for your referral seeking advice on the above State Significant Development proposal. Heritage NSW understands that the proposal involves the establishment of a tin mine, associated infrastructure, and construction of a mine camp. In preparing this advice Heritage NSW has reviewed the following documents:

- Relevant Sections of Environmental Impact Statement - prepared by R.W. Corkery & Co. Pty Ltd, dated September 2025
- Appendix 17: Aboriginal and Historic Cultural Heritage Assessment Report - prepared by Landskape Heritage Management, dated September 2025

Following the review of the above documents, Heritage NSW requests additional information to inform its advice to the Department on whether the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report adequately addresses the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements for the project, including the associated recommendations for the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The additional information required in relation to the proposal is detailed in **Attachment A**.

Please note that the above comments relate only to Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation matters. If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact Corey O'Driscoll, Practice Lead at Heritage NSW on (02) 9873 8500 or heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

Lyndon Patterson

Lyndon Patterson
A/Practice Lead - Major Projects
Heritage NSW
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
As Delegate under *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*
30 October 2025

Attachment A – Detailed Aboriginal cultural heritage advice

Consultation

1. We request that additional documentation of the consultation process be provided. The applicant needs to provide evidence that consultation was kept continuous between December 2023 and November 2024. Heritage NSW requires that consultation with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) is continuous. Under our policy and guidelines, breaks in consultation of over six months may not constitute continuous consultation.
2. Please provide Heritage NSW with evidence that each Aboriginal stakeholder was contacted as part of all stages of consultation. This can comprise of copies of dated email records with all relevant email addresses shown and/or delivery / read receipts of the correspondence.
3. Please provide the documentation of consultation undertaken with the Registered Aboriginal Party outlined in Annexure 8 to ensure that all comments have been adequately addressed.
4. Further information is required on the potential women's ceremonial site and its location in relation to the project area.
5. Please clarify if the project area is situated within or in the vicinity of the Boorabee and The Willows Indigenous Protection Area.

Archaeological Assessment

6. The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) outlines that 34% of the project area was subject to survey with a number of areas subject to various levels of disturbance and the skeletal nature of the soils reducing the likelihood of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. To ensure that this coverage is sufficient for the proposed works, additional contextual information is required, including:
 - a. As per Requirements 2 and 3 of the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales* (DECCW 2010; Code of Practice), please provide mapping of the relevant geological units, landform (including slope and contours if relevant), and soil landscapes.
 - b. As per Requirement 5 of the Code of Practice, please include mapping identifying each of the survey units as they are described in Table 5 of the ACHAR.
 - c. Where possible, please include mapping of the existing disturbance, especially those areas subject to heavy ground disturbance from previous mining and/or quarrying activities.
 - d. Where insufficient evidence of disturbance and/or areas that require additional survey coverage, further archaeological assessment may be required prior to any project approval.

Taronga Homestead

7. Further information is required on the designation of the homestead as of low local significance, including a more detailed history of the Taronga Homestead, a review of historical records (including plans and historical aerial imagery), the current state of the building and the original fabric, mapping of proposed impacts relative to the homestead complex, the potential reuse of the building and any proposed mitigation measures (e.g. archival recording as a baseline) in accordance with the SEARs. Under *Heritage Act 1977* criteria, heritage items may

be assessed as being of local or state significance. 'Low local' significance is not a formal classification. Further, the ACHAR outlines that owing to the number of other locally listed buildings in the area that this homestead would not fit similar listings. However, the other locally listed buildings are largely non-residential.

8. While the ACHAR notes that there is no ground disturbance works associated with the homestead, consideration should be given to impacts to potential archaeological relics in and around the homestead.