

31 March 2021

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BY EMAIL: Amy.Watson@planning.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Amy Watson

Dear Amy

Powerhouse Parramatta- SSD10416- Tree Retention and Removal

In accordance with condition C4(a)(i) of the Powerhouse Parramatta SSD10416 consent, Infrastructure is seeking agreement of the Planning Secretary for removal of trees 2 and 3. The condition requires:

An assessment of the potential to retain existing trees numbered 2, 3, 4 and 8 (as identified within the document titled 'Aboricultural Impact Assessment' Revision A, prepared by Tree IQ and dated 16 April 2020) on the site, in addition to the planting of 120 new/ replacement trees.

Further assessment has been undertaken by Infrastructure NSW on the potential to retain these trees. At this stage Infrastructure NSW is not seeking removal of trees 4 and 8, however upon further advice from the main works contractor, a request for removal may be sought. At present trees 4 and 8 will be protected during the Early Works.

A further assessment of trees 2, 3, 4 and 8 has been undertaken by Tree IQ and is attached. The assessment notes that:

- Tree 2 has a short useful life expectancy of between 5 and 15 years.
- Tree 3 has a useful life expectancy of between 15 and 40 years, with an estimate that it will fall within the lower range of this estimate.
- Tree protection measures must be installed for trees 4 and 8.

Tree 2

Approval is sought for the removal of tree 2. Whilst the tree is noted as having aboricultural value, it does not have a life expectancy that will align with the life of the project. Further it is located adjacent to a retaining wall that is proposed to be removed. Whilst this retaining wall could be retained in part (subject to further structural assessment), it would impact the ability to complete the water sensitive urban design landscape feature proposed along the riverbank.

It is assessed that whilst retention of tree 2 may have aboricultural benefits, it will not be a long-lived addition to the Powerhouse landscape. Further it will require an amendment to the design of the landscape, particularly in relation to WSUD, which is a key feature intended to assist with improving river health.

Tree 3

Approval is sought for the removal of tree 3. This tree is an introduced species, and whilst it retains landscape value, it is not consistent with the landscape theme adopted for Powerhouse Parramatta. Most notably condition C4(b) requires all planting within the site to be of Cumberland Plain Woodland. Further tree 3 has a useful life expectancy of between 15 and 40 years with an estimate that it is at the lower end of the range. As such this life expectancy is similar to Tree 2 and well below the life of the project.

It has been assessed that whilst tree 3 retains some landscape value, it is not in keeping with the intended landscape design for Cumberland Plain Woodland species. This together with a limited life expectancy is considered valid reasons for removal of this tree.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the undersigned on 0421 595 766.

Yours faithfully,



Tom Kennedy