



Megan Fu
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

11 April 2014

Dear Megan

Re: Parkes Hospital Redevelopment (SSD 6107) Publicly Exhibited Environmental Impact Statement

I refer to your email received on 12 March 2014 seeking comment from the Office of Environment and Heritage on the exhibited Environmental Impact Statement for the Parkes Hospital Redevelopment.

Our detailed comments are provided in Attachment A.

Our main issues relating to the EIS are:

Aboriginal cultural heritage

- It is unclear from reading the report if the site workers have or will have the ability to identify unanticipated Aboriginal objects
- There is reference to the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council in relation to reporting the discovery of unanticipated human remains, however this development is not within their area of interest.

If you have any questions regarding the items raised in this response please contact myself on 6883 5313.

Yours sincerely

SONYA ARDILL
Senior Team Leader Planning, North West
Regional Operations

Attachment A:

Parkes Hospital Redevelopment Public Exhibition

Office of Environment and Heritage Response

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

ISSUE 1

Page 20, Section 7 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (Recommendation 2) describes the contingency plan that will be in place should there be a discovery of unanticipated Aboriginal objects.

One of the 1st steps in protecting Aboriginal objects is the ability to identify these objects. It is unclear from the information provided if the construction workers have or will have the ability to identify Aboriginal objects. During construction, if construction workers have not been trained nor have the ability to identify Aboriginal objects, objects may be unearthed without the workers knowing.

RECOMMENDATION 1

This recommendation needs to be amended to include providing relevant training to enable construction workers to identify Aboriginal objects that may be found during construction.

ISSUE 2

Page 20, Section 7 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (Recommendation 3) recommends that in the event of unanticipated human remains being discovered, report the find to the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC). This appears to be a mistake as this development is not within the Illawarra LALC's area of interest.

RECOMMENDATION 2

This recommendation needs to be amended to change Illawarra LALC to the Aboriginal Registered Parties.