



artefact

Aaron Smith
Heath Infrastructure NSW

22 June 2015

Dear Mr Smith,

This letter is in response to the comments received by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) on 19 June 2015 as part of the consultation for the State Significant Development (SSD) approval for upgrade works to Sutherland Hospital. The comments relate to a report prepared by Artefact Heritage – “DRAFT Sutherland Hospital Aboriginal heritage assessment 3 March 2015”.

OEH has advised that the assessment did not adequately discuss cultural values and that Aboriginal consultation was not undertaken in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010*. OEH has stated that the assessment therefore does not comply with the SEARs.

The consultation guidelines require comprehensive Aboriginal consultation to be undertaken if impacts to Aboriginal objects or places are proposed. The Artefact (2015) report found that there were no Aboriginal sites, places or areas of archaeological potential within the study area therefore comprehensive Aboriginal consultation as outlined in the consultation guidelines was not required.

The La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council (LPLALC) was approached to provide information on cultural significance of the site and was invited to attend the site survey. LPLALC declined to attend the site survey and did not identify any cultural values within the study area. This information was included in the Artefact report and subsequently the SEARs have been met.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or you would like to discuss.

Kind Regards,

Dr Sandra Wallace
Director
Artefact Heritage

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