



**Australian Government**

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications**

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**DECISION UNDER THE AIRPORTS (PROTECTION OF AIRSPACE) REGULATIONS 1996**

**Proposed Activity:** Construction of a building

**Location:** R4B, 51A Hickson Road, Barangaroo NSW

**MGA 94 Coordinates:** E 333627; N 6251642

**Proponent:** NSW Planning & Environment for Lend Lease

I refer to the application from NSW Planning & Environment on behalf of Lend Lease (the Proponent), received by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) on 9 September 2020 from Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (SACL). This application (SACL Ref. 16/1052a) sought approval under the Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations 1996 (the Regulations) for the intrusion of a building at R4B, 51A Hickson Road, Barangaroo NSW (the site) into airspace which, under the Regulations, is prescribed airspace for Sydney Airport.

The proposed development was previously approved by the Department on 17 February 2017 for a maximum height of 210 metres above the Australian Height Datum (AHD). This application seeks to vary the approval to increase the height of the building to 233.5 metres AHD.

Under regulation 6(1), 'prescribed airspace' includes 'the airspace above any part of either an Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS) or Procedures for Air Navigation Services - Aircraft Operations (PANS-OPS) surface for the airport'.

The Outer Horizontal Surface of the OLS above this site is at a height of 156 metres AHD and hence prescribed airspace above the site commences at 156 metres AHD. At a maximum height of 233.5 metres AHD, the building will penetrate the OLS by 77.5 metres AHD.

Accordingly, the construction of the building constitutes a “controlled activity” under Section 182 of the *Airports Act 1996* (the Act). Section 183 of the Act specifies that controlled activities cannot be carried out without approval. Details of the penetration of prescribed airspace are provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Height and location of the proposed activity that will intrude into prescribed airspace for Sydney Airport.

Activity	MGA 94 Coordinates	Maximum height (AHD)	Penetration of prescribed airspace
Building	E 333627; N 6251642	233.5 metres	77.5 metres

Regulation 14 provides that a proposal to carry out a controlled activity must be approved unless carrying out the controlled activity would interfere with the safety, efficiency or regularity of existing or future air transport operations into or out of the airport concerned. Regulation 14(1)(b) provides that an approval may be granted subject to conditions.

Under the Regulations, the Secretary of the Department is empowered to make decisions in relation to the approval of controlled activities, and impose conditions on the approval. I am the Secretary’s Delegate for the purposes of the Regulations.

### **Decision**

As you may be aware, the Secretary is required under regulation 15(1AB) of the Regulations to make a decision about the proposal within 28 days of receiving the application.

Due to delays with our processes and the time taken to receive all the information that is relevant, a decision was not made within this timeframe. Therefore, under regulation 15(2) this proposal was taken to have been refused. However, as this information has now been received and the Department has now considered the application in full, I have re-made the decision.

In accordance with regulation 14, **I approve** the controlled activity for the intrusion of a building at R4B, 51A Hickson Road, Barangaroo NSW into prescribed airspace for Sydney Airport to a **maximum height of 233.5 metres AHD**.

In making my decision, I have taken into consideration the opinions of the proponent, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Airservices Australia’s advice number SY-CA-403 P2, airlines and SACL.

In accordance with regulation 14(1)(b), I impose the following conditions on my approval:

1. The building **must not exceed** a maximum height of **233.5 metres AHD**, this **includes all** lift over-runs, vents, chimneys, aerals, antennas, lightning rods, any roof top garden plantings, exhaust flues etc.
2. The proponent **must advise** Airservices Australia at least three business days prior to the controlled activity commencing by emailing <ifp@airservicesaustralia.com> and quoting SY-CA-403 P2.

3. Separate approval **must be sought** under the Regulations for any equipment (i.e. cranes) required to construct the building. Construction cranes may be required to operate at a height significantly higher than that of the proposed controlled activity and consequently, may not be approved under the Regulations. Therefore, it is advisable that approval to operate construction equipment (i.e. cranes) be obtained prior to any commitment to construct.
4. The Proponent **must report** all permanent obstacles 100 metres or more above ground level or that penetrate the OLS to the Aeronautical Information Service provider, Airservices Australia by emailing <VOD@airservicesaustralia.com> or telephoning 02 6268 5622.
5. On completion of construction of the building, the Proponent **must provide** the airfield design manager with a written report from a certified surveyor on the finished height of the building.

**Breaches of approval conditions are subject to significant penalties** under Sections 185 and 187 of the Act.

Please note the original approval of 17 February 2017 is no longer in effect as it is superseded by this approval.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sharyn Owen  
Director, Aviation Safeguarding  
Aviation and Airports Division

14 October 2020