



DOC17/275481-1
SSD 7720

Peter McManus
Technical Specialist, Social & Other Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
peter.mcmanus@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Peter

Dubbo Hospital Redevelopment Stage 4 - Public Exhibition

Thank you for your invitation for the Office of Environment Heritage (OEH) to comment on the exhibited Environment Assessment for Stage 4 of the Dubbo Hospital Redevelopment.

On 31 March 2017 OEH provided agreement (copy attached) to Health Infrastructure that the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA) does not need to be implemented as no native vegetation or threatened species habitat is likely to occur within the Stage 4 works area. OEH has reviewed the EIS and has no further comment at this stage.

Should you require further information regarding issues that are the responsibility of the OEH please contact David Geering on 02 6883 5335 or david.geering@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

PETER CHRISTIE
Director North West
Regional Operations Division

18 May 2017

Contact officer: DAVID GEERING
02 6883 5335



DOC17/160427

Mr David Ballantyne
Executive Director Planning and Solutions
Health Infrastructure
PO Box 1060
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

Dear Mr Ballantyne

**Dubbo Hospital Redevelopment Stage 4 Works
Request for Exemption from Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA) Requirements**

I refer to your request for FBA exemption dated 20 February 2016 with a letter attachment from OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management Pty Ltd (OzArk) outlining the ecological condition of vegetation on the Dubbo Hospital rehabilitation site. I have also referred to the ecological assessment report for the Playmates Cottage (OzArk 2016) which was provided to OEH on 25 March 2017 by OzArk.

Based on the information provided (OzArk 2016) no native vegetation or threatened species habitat is likely to occur within the Stage 4 works area. On this basis OEH provides agreement that the FBA does not need to be implemented. However, the steps taken by the ecological consultant to determine that no native vegetation, no waterbodies and no FBA-assessable habitat for threatened biota occurs (e.g. desktop research, site visit, surveys, etc.) must be documented in the EIS. Note that OEH reserves the right to request later application of the FBA in the event new biodiversity information comes to light during the assessment process.

Please also note OEH's agreement to not require implementation of the FBA does not alter the Applicant's requirement to implement the Project Specific Requirements as outlined in the SEARs.

Should you require further information regarding issues that are the responsibility of the OEH please contact Steven Cox on 02 6883 5382 or steven.cox@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

PETER CHRISTIE
A/ Director North West
Regional Operations Division

31 March 2017

CONTACT Steven Cox
02 6883 5382