

Mr Jeffery Gilham Deputy Director Transport for NSW 130 George Street Parramatta NSW 2150

08/09/2021

Dear Mr Gilham

The Northern Road Upgrade (SSI 7127) Biodiversity Offset Strategy

I refer to your submission dated 11 August 2021 seeking an extension to the Biodiversity Offset Package (BOP) submission date required under condition E3 of SSI 7127.

Condition E3 requires that the BOP be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval within 12 months of approval of the Biodiversity Offset Strategy (approved 9 April 2020). Accordingly, on 8 March 2021, I approved a six-month extension which required the BOP to be submitted no later than 8 October 2021.

I understand that you are seeking the extension to facilitate fieldwork which you have been unable to commence due to restrictions, including the necessary survey to assist in finalising the projects biodiversity offset obligations and to proceed with formalising Stewardship Agreements.

As nominee of the Planning Secretary, I approve the extension of the submission of the BOP for 12 months from the date of this approval under condition E3 of SSI 7127. I consider this to be a generous timeframe in which to finalise the BOP. To avoid further extensions, I am requesting that you provide monthly updates to the Department and that you proactively consult with NSW Environment, Energy and Science (EES) to resolve any outstanding issues.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Lee McCourt on 8289 6969.

Yours sincerely

Jake Shackleton

Director – Infrastructure Management

As nominee of the Planning Secretary