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20 July 2022

NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
**PARRAMATTA, NSW 2124**

Submitted via NSW Planning Portal

To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: POWERHOUSE ULTIMO RENEWAL – SSD-32927319**

The Australian Museum (AM) is the first Museum in the nation and an agency of the NSW Government within the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade. The AM works collaboratively with other significant cultural institutions in NSW including the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) to deliver contemporary, relevant world-class cultural infrastructure as outlined in the NSW Government's *Cultural Infrastructure Plan 2025+*.

Urban Context

The Powerhouse Ultimo renewal objectives are to deliver an international standard museum on the Ultimo site that would include fashion and design galleries showcasing MAAS's significant fashion and design collections. Situated alongside the Tech Central precinct and located near to the University of Technology, these institutions and the Australian Museum would create a powerful STEM triangle where Museum visitors, and in particular students, are able to receive an integrated STEM education with a focus on applied science.

Heritage and Sustainability

The Australian Museum's applauds the heritage focus with the plans to re-engage the original power station and re-orient the entrance to the city. The project appropriately seeks a 5-star green star rating and net-zero operations which compliments the work of other cultural institutions like the Australian Museum and the Sydney Opera House. It is important that iconic cultural institutions provide strong leadership in sustainability showcasing to others that despite heritage challenges iconic cultural institutions can play an active role in tackling climate change. The proposed SSDA celebrates the unique character of the Powerhouse Ultimo site and connects the site to the CBD and the surrounding precincts. We look forward to seeing how the competitive design process will progress and feel assured that the Powerhouse Ultimo renewal will contribute to the cultural fabric of Sydney as a global city.

Yours sincerely,



Kim McKay AO  
**Director and CEO**

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