



Job ID: DOC18/406639-1

Ms Jessie Evans  
Team Leader - Resource Assessments  
Department of Planning & Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Sent by email to: [jessie.evans@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jessie.evans@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms Evans

**RE: Modification to Dendrobium Underground Coal Mine Development Consent (DA 60-03-2001) – Modification 8: Dendrobium Power Supply Upgrade**

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I refer to your correspondence dated 20 June 2018 inviting comments on the above State Significant Development application, including the Statement of Heritage Impact, for the proposal involving the following works:

Demolition of the existing switchyard (constructed circa 1962) in the Dendrobium Colliery site, and install a new kiosk transformer adjacent to the location of the existing switchyard. The key drivers for the demolition, as noted in the Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) provided by Niche Environment and Heritage dated June 2017, is to replace the existing switchyard, which is in poor condition, as well as to change the current private power supplier, Bluescope Steel Limited (BSL) 33kV network to a local supplier Endeavour Energy 11kV network. The proposed works would be carried out in two stages:

**Stage 1 - Implementation of new Kiosk Transformer**

- Removal of existing switchyard structure, footings and electrical connections
- Construction of new footings for Kiosk Transformer
- Replacement of existing perimeter fencing with electrically non-conductive fencing
- Implement new power supply from Endeavour Energy 11kV network which currently runs on the southern side of Cordeaux Road, past the Dendrobium main entrance
- Construct in-ground power supply from Endeavour Energy's nominated point of connection across current visitors' carpark to the kiosk transformer
- Construct a 6.6kV power supply from the kiosk transformer to Dendrobium Main 6.6kV switchboard located in the Nebo workshop
- Commission kiosk transformer
- Disconnect existing switchyard from BSL network

**Stage 2 – Removal of remaining switchyard**

- Removal of remaining switchyard structure following the placement/commission of the new Kiosk Transformer

Whilst the Dendrobium Colliery site is not listed as an item in the State Heritage Register NSW, the SOHI assesses the site as being of state significance under the *NSW Heritage Significance Assessment Criteria*:

*Criterion (a) An item is important in the course, or pattern, or NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area).*

The SOHI notes, within the context of Criterion (a) that *Nebo Colliery* [Dendrobium Colliery site] *has association with the development of mining in the Illawarra in the post- World War II era. It was opened as a green fields site and constructed to take into account the wellbeing of the mine workers following legislative changes. It was one of the first mechanised mines in the area. Later significance can be garnered from the association with the new Dendrobium mine, which took over the site in 2001.*

The existing 1962 transformer switchyard, proposed to be demolished, is located within the Dendrobium Colliery site, which is listed in the Wollongong LEP 2009 as 'Nebo Colliery' - Item ID: 7104, identified as being of Local significance.

The SOHI states that the proposed new substation would be in the southern part of the subject site. Other significant items on the site - the Administration building and Bathhouse – are in the northern part of the site. It is noted that the visual impact of the proposed works within the subject site would be negligible. It is also stated that the heritage items near the subject site (located within 500m of the area of proposed works) do not have clear sightlines to the proposed new substation due to the topography and thick surrounding bushland.

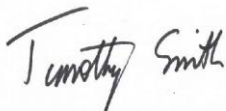
It is noted that the existing switchyard, although in a poor state of repair, is an element of contributory significance to the subject site and is a significant part of the cumulative history and physical development of the Dendrobium Colliery site. The SOHI assesses the heritage value of the existing 1962 transformer switchyard, as an element of the subject site, to be low. It concludes that the removal and replacement of the existing switchyard would result in a negligible impact to the heritage significance of the subject site.

Based on the above, the following conditions of approval are recommended:

- The recommendations provided in section 8.2 of the Statement of Heritage Impact, prepared by Niche Environment and Heritage Pty Ltd, dated June 2017, should be incorporated as part of the proposed development.
- A photographic archival recording of significant built and landscape elements affected by the proposal should be prepared **prior to** the commencement, **during** the works **and after** the completion of works, in accordance with the NSW Heritage Division publications 'How to prepare archival records of heritage items and Photographic Recording of Heritage Items using Film or Digital Capture'. A copy of these archival recordings should be provided to the Heritage Council of NSW.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Reena Goyal, Senior Heritage Assessments Officer, Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage, at email: [Reena.Goyal@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Reena.Goyal@environment.nsw.gov.au) on telephone: 8873 6370.

Yours sincerely



**Tim Smith OAM**  
Director, Heritage Operations  
Heritage Division

Office of Environment & Heritage  
**As Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council**  
26 June 2018