



Department of Primary Industries

OUT12/31827

- 7 DEC 2012

Ms Diane Sarkies
Infrastructure Projects
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Diane.Sarkies@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Sarkies,

**Modification to Stage 1 of the NW Rail Link (relating to Castle Hill showground)
(SSI Mod-5645)**

I refer to your letter dated 13 November 2011 requesting advice from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter. Please note, in respect to this letter:

- (i) Minerals is now Mineral Resources, part of the Resources & Energy division within NSW Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services (NSW T&I). An internal referral of your letter has been made to Mineral Resources, who may respond by separate letter. Future correspondence should be sent direct to that Division, not to DPI (which is a separate department within NSW T&I).
- (ii) Crown Lands is now within the Catchments & Lands division of DPI. Comment by Crown Lands on this modification application is advised below.
- (iii) there are no issues raised by Fisheries NSW in respect to this modification.

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The NSW Office of Water has no objection to the proposed modification, but provides the following comments in relation to the Cattai Creek alluvium consolidation (grouting) works to assist the Department's assessment:

- the design, management, implementation and certification of any grouting works for the consolidation of the Cattai Creek alluvium should be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced persons.
- all works should be designed and implemented in accordance with best management practice.
- riparian areas must be rehabilitated upon completion of works so as to maintain or improve the hydrologic, geomorphic and ecological integrity of the waterways.
- all works taking place in, on or under waterfront land, as defined in the *Water Management Act 2000*, are considered to be controlled activities. While State Significant Infrastructure projects are excluded from the requirement to obtain and hold approvals for controlled activities (as per s. 15ZG of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*), such activities should be conducted in accordance with the Office of Water's *Guidelines for Controlled Activities*.

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Level 6, 201 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box K220, Haymarket NSW 1240

Tel: 02 8289 3999 Fax: 02 9286 3208 www.dpi.nsw.gov.au ABN: 72 189 919 072

For further information please contact Rohan Macdonald, Planning and Assessment Coordinator (Newcastle office) on 4904 2642 or at: rohan.macdonald@water.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by Crown Lands

Crown Lands advise that part of the proposed heavy vehicle access route is located on Crown land (as part of the Castle Hill showground) (as shown on the maps in Attachment A). Should this continue to be the case, the proponent will need to obtain approval or arrange purchase under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. Contact in this regard should be made to the local office (Parramatta) of Crown Lands.

For further information please contact Stephen Fenn, Acting Senior Area Manager (Parramatta office) on 8236 7113 or at: stephen.fenn@lands.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by Agriculture NSW

Agriculture NSW advise that the fortnightly Castle Hill Showground Framers Market run by Hawkesbury Harvest Inc. attracts some 5000-6000 people per month and that it is estimated that the annual turnover is about \$3 million.

As such, and to allow the market to continue during construction, particular attention in any approval to the proposed modification will need to be given to access and egress for the public and stall holders (with small trucks). In particular these arrangements should be such that patrons are not deterred from attending through, for example, undue traffic delays.

For further information please contact Andrew Docking, Resource Management Officer (Richmond office) on 4588 2128 or at: Andrew.Docking@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Comment by Fisheries NSW

Fisheries NSW advise that the proposed modification will be an improvement on the existing proposal on the basis that it substantially reduces the amount of vegetation to be cleared in and on the fringe of the riparian zone of Cattai Creek.

For further information please contact Marcel Green, Senior Environmental Assessments Officer (Wollstonecraft office) on 8437 4933 or at: marcel.green@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



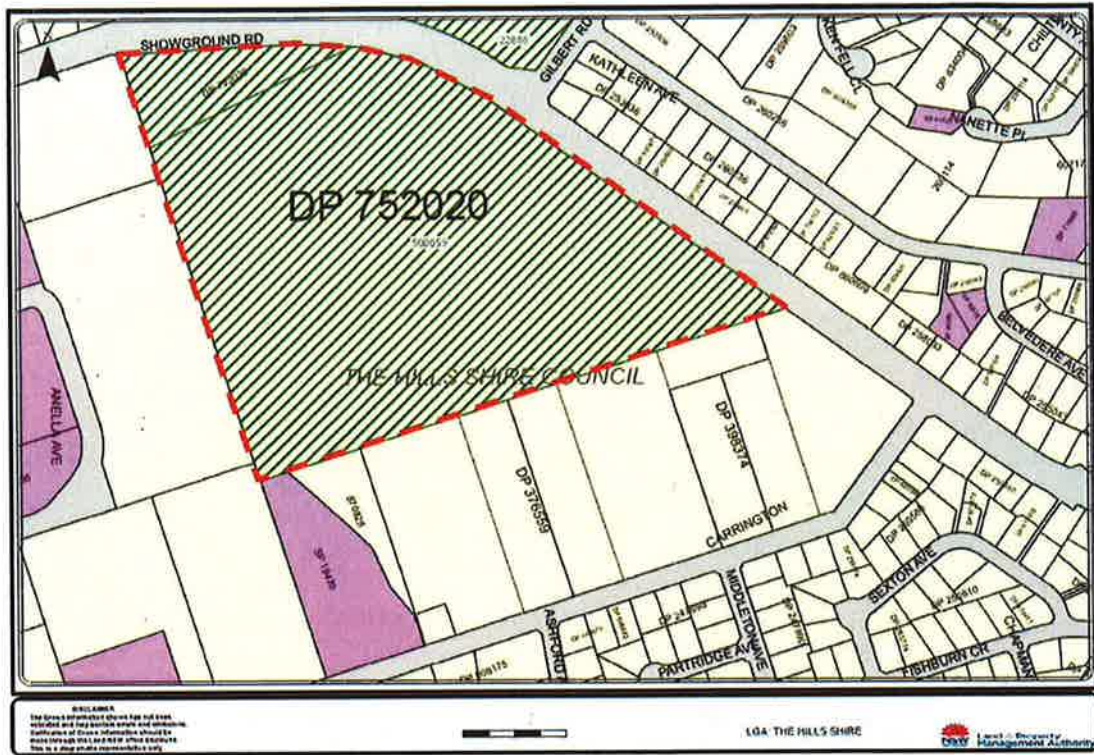
Phil Anquetil

Executive Director Business Services

Attachment A

Modification to Stage 1 of the NW Rail Link (relating to Castle Hill showground) (SSI Mod-5645)

Map showing affected Crown land



End Attachment A
