



File: SF16/50107
Job ID No: DOC16/537624
Your Ref: SSD 7745

Brendon Roberts
Team Leader - Key Site Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Roberts

RE: Notice of Exhibition – New South Wales Rugby League Centre of Excellence – Site 18 – Sydney Olympic Park (SSD 7745)

I refer to your letter dated 24 October 2016 inviting the Heritage Council of NSW (the Heritage Council) to provide comments including advice on recommended conditions of consent for the above proposal.

The Heritage Council previously issued recommended SEARs dated 22 July 2016. The SEARs requested the following be included in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):

- The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should identify if there are any listed or potential heritage items within the proposed project area. If any listed or potential heritage items are likely to be affected, a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) must be prepared in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual. The HIS should assess how the development would impact on any places of heritage significance in or surrounding the SSD site. This should include a view impact assessment and mitigation measures to offset potential impacts on heritage values. The HIA should be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced heritage consultant.
- Provide a baseline historical archaeological assessment prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced historical archaeologist, in accordance with current Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage, Guidelines, including 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and Relics' 2009. The assessment should identify potential location and significance of any archaeological relics and associated deposits within the site, consider the impacts from the proposal on this potential resource, and recommend appropriate mitigation measures to protect it.

It is noted that the SEARs issued to the proponent were paraphrased to read as follows:

- Identify whether any listed or potential heritage items are located within the project area. If any items are likely to be affected, prepare a Heritage Impact Statement.
- Prepare an Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal archaeological assessment detailing the likely impacts and outline the proposed management and mitigation measures to protect and preserve the archaeology.

The EIS states that the proposal will not physically impact any heritage items or impinge on the curtilage of any heritage item. It also states that the development will not impact any significant views

to or from any State-significant heritage items, therefore no heritage impact mitigation measures are required.

The Heritage Council is satisfied with this assessment that the development will not impact on any State-significant heritage items in the vicinity of the development and concurs that no mitigation measures are required relating to built heritage.

The EIS provides a brief assessment of the historical phases of the site and the archaeological potential. The assessment indicated that due to the highly disturbed nature of the site, resulting from the post-industrial development within the study area, *'there is a nil-low potential for significant archaeological remains within the site'*. As such, the assessment considered the study area unlikely to yield significant archaeological remains and indicated that the archaeological resource is unlikely to contribute to a greater understanding or appreciation of the past, thereby not meeting the requisite significance criteria identified by the Heritage Division. The Heritage Council deem this response appropriate and consider that no further archaeological investigation is required. Standard conditions relating to unexpected archaeological finds are recommended in order to mitigate impacts to archaeology in the event that any relics are unearthed during the proposed works.

It is recommended that the following conditions of consent be included:

- 1. The Applicant must ensure that if substantial intact archaeological deposits and/or State significant relics are discovered, work must cease in the affected area(s) and the Heritage Council of NSW must be notified. Additional assessment and approval may be required prior to works continuing in the affected area(s) based on the nature of the discovery.**
- 2. Should any Aboriginal objects be uncovered by the work, excavation or disturbance of the area is to stop immediately and the Office of Environment & Heritage (Enviroline 131 555) is to be notified in accordance with Section 89A of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act). Aboriginal objects in NSW are protected under the NPW Act. Unless the objects are subject to a valid Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit, work must not recommence until approval to do so has been provided by the Office of Environment & Heritage.**

If you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please contact Gary Hinder, State Heritage Assessment Officer at the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage, on (02) 9873 8547 or Gary.Hinder@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



23/11/2016

Katrina Stankowski
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Office of Environment & Heritage
As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW