



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

DOC 18/271839-2
SSD 8440

Mr Brian Kirk
Planner– Key Site Assessments (Industry and Infrastructure Assessments)
Department of Planning & Environment
brian.kirk@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Brian

OEH Review of Response to Submissions document: Mixed Use Development at 42 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle (SSD 8440) – Newcastle City LGA

I refer to your e-mail dated 2 May 2018, seeking comments on the Response to Submission (RTS) document for the proposed mixed-use development at 42 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle (SSD 8440), in the Newcastle City local government area. OEH has reviewed the relevant annexures, attachments and parts of the document titled '*Office of Environment and Heritage Response - RE: Development Application for Proposed Construction of Nine-Storey Mixed Use Development at 42 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle NSW 2300*' (prepared by KDC Pty Ltd and dated April 2018) in relation to impacts on biodiversity, Aboriginal cultural heritage and flooding.

OEH's recommendations are provided in **Attachment A** and detailed comments are provided in **Attachment B**. If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Steven Cox, Senior Team Leader Planning, on 4927 3140.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Molloy 21/5/2018

SHARON MOLLOY
Director Hunter Central Coast Branch
Regional Operations Division

Contact officer: STEVEN COX
02 4927 3140

Enclosure: Attachments A and B

Attachment A

OEH's recommendations**Mixed Use Development at 42 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle (SSD 8440)**

1. OEH has granted an exemption from the FBA for the project and no further biodiversity assessment is required.
2. OEH supports the extension of timeframes to allow the archaeological testing to determine the nature and scope of the Aboriginal cultural heritage potential of the site. OEH will review the ACHAR once submitted.
3. OEH is satisfied with the flooding assessment provided. No further flooding information is required.

OEH's detailed comments

Mixed Use Development at 42 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle (SSD 8440)

Biodiversity

1. An exemption to the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA) has been granted by OEH

The proponent requested an exemption from the FBA under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects in correspondence dated 5 April 2018, on the basis the site was highly disturbed and devoid of any biodiversity values. OEH was satisfied with the request and agreed no further biodiversity assessment was required. Exemption from the FBA was provided to the proponent on 12 April 2018.

Recommendation 1

OEH has granted an exemption from the FBA for the project and no further biodiversity assessment is required.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

2. The exemption does not extend to the Aboriginal cultural heritage

In the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the proponent requested an extension to the timeframes to allow for archaeological testing to determine the nature and scope of the Aboriginal cultural heritage potential of the site. OEH supported the proposed extension.

However, in the RTS document, the proponent has mistakenly applied the FBA exemption to the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment. This is incorrect. The FBA exemption only applies to biodiversity.

Recommendation 2

OEH supports the extension of timeframes to allow the archaeological testing to determine the nature and scope of the Aboriginal cultural heritage potential of the site. OEH will review the ACHAR once submitted.

Water, Floodplains and Coastal

3. OEH is satisfied with the flooding information provided

The provided amended architectural and engineering plans together with the clarification regarding the on-site detention tank has satisfied OEH flooding concerns on this project. No further information is required.

Recommendation 3

OEH is satisfied with the flooding assessment provided. No further flooding information is required.

