

Your reference: SSI-12590060 Our reference: EF21/6985

Jack Turner Senior Environmental Assessment Officer Energy Resource Assessment Department of Planning, Industry & Environment By email: Jack.Turner@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Jack,

Advice on EIS and recommended conditions – State Significant Infrastructure – Hunter Power Project – Kurri Kurri Power Station (SSI-12590060)

Thank you for your referral uploaded to the Major Projects Portal on 5 May 2021 seeking advice on the response to submission for the above state significance infrastructure (SSI) proposal.

In preparing the following advice we have reviewed the following documents:

- Environmental Impact Statement: State Significant Development Application (SSD10465) prepared by Group Australia (Jacobs), dated April 2021
- Appendix A: SEARs for SSI-12590060, issued 5 February 2021
- Appendix C: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) prepared by Jacobs, dated April 2021

The ACHAR provided is complete and does comply with the project SEARs issued by Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment. Heritage NSW provides to following recommendations in addition to the management and mitigation measures included in the ACHAR and EIS:

- The ACHAR must outline procedures for the monitoring program, including but not limited to:
 - The number of Registered Aboriginal Parities (RAPs) that will be on site each day;
 - A list of the artefact attributes that will be recorded on all recovered artefactual material;
 - Methodology for the monitoring of bulk excavations, including:
 - Method of fill and sediment removal (i.e., bulk or spit);
 - A hand excavation procedure that includes details on if removal of surrounding fill material is required and the requirements for commencement and termination of excavations;
- The predictive model outlined in Section 4.3 of the Archaeological Assessment Report (Appendix B of ACHAR) requires explication of the assumptions of the model, supporting evidence, and a detailed assessment of other predictive models used in the region;
- The significance assessment must assess the potential for sub-surface deposit based the findings from archaeological excavations throughout the surrounding region and be updated accordingly;
- The significance assessment must consider the significance statements provided by the RAPs during the consultation process;



- Must include an Unexpected Finds Protocol (non-skeletal remains);
- Correction of in-text referencing throughout the ACHAR, with specific mention to Section 5.

If you have any further questions in relation to this matter, please contact Corey O'Driscoll, Archaeologist, at Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation North on 6229 7079 and <u>corey.odriscoll@environment.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely



Dr. Samantha Higgs Senior Team Leader Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation – North Date: 1 June 2021