



Heritage Council

of New South Wales

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Kane Winwood
A/Manager Water Projects
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Department of Planning
Received
15 NOV 2011
Scanning Room

Dear Mr Winwood

RE: Heritage Comments regarding Environmental Assessment for Water Related Services for the North West Growth Centre – Second Release Precincts – Public Exhibition.

I refer to your letter dated 10 October inviting the Heritage Council to make a submission on the above project. A copy of the Environmental Assessment (EA) by Sydney Water (dated October 2011) and its associated Appendices were supplied for this purpose. This documentation included Appendix V which contained a 'Non-Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Report' by Biosis Research (dated March 2011) and a report titled 'Heritage Significance and Impact Assessment for Ten Sites in Box Hill' by AECOM (dated September 2011).

It is noted that this project will have an impact on up to 17 items of non-Aboriginal heritage significance including historic road alignments, houses, buildings, estates and creek crossings, five of which are listed on local heritage registers. Of these items, seven have the potential to be directly impacted by the project while the other ten may sustain indirect impacts from vibration or construction works.

The Draft Statement of Commitments (DSOC) for the project contains 5 commitments relating to non-Aboriginal heritage (Nos. 18-22). Commitments 18 and 19 provide an agreement by the applicant to undertake specific mitigation measures for each heritage item to be impacted by the works (as identified in Table 6-16 and Table 6-17 in Section 6.8.2 of the EA). Commitment 20 provides for an induction package for project personnel regarding the potential to locate unidentified heritage while commitment 21 requires that if unexpected heritage is discovered works will stop and the a representative from Sydney Water will be contacted to determine the best course of action. An archaeologist may be called in to assess the find and if the item is a 'relic', the Heritage Council will be notified in accordance with s146 of the Heritage Act and future archaeological works may be required. Commitment 22 requires Standard Sydney Water operating procedures will be implemented to ensure any maintenance activities will have no impact on the Non-Aboriginal heritage items.

Accordingly, the reports have been examined and the following comments are provided for your information:

1. It is considered that the mitigation measures for the impacts identified to non-Aboriginal heritage identified in Tables 6-16 & 6-17 are not adequate.

Mitigation measure No. 1 proposed for Item no. NW 95 should be undertaken for Item NW 59 and Item NW 98 as they relate to the same historic road alignment (Old Pitt Town Road) and have the same level of significance. The argument that because no evidence exists at one location means that no evidence exists at the other two locations is not accepted as valid, particularly when the condition for all three locations is described as 'moderate'.

2. It is considered that the proposed mitigation measure for Site NW 121 should also be undertaken at site NW 120 to ensure that if early road surfaces are uncovered, they are appropriately assessed. If earlier road surfaces are located at NW 120 & 121 they should be archivally recorded using Heritage Council Archival Recording Guidelines.
3. The applicant should commit to remediating any vibration damaged that the proposed works cause to any significant heritage standing structures (NW 63, NW 104, NW 91, NW 94, NW 107 & NW 109).

Inquiries on this matter may be directed to Katrina Stankowski on 98738569 or via email at Katrina.Stankowski@heritage.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



11/11/2011

Vincent Sicari

Manager

Conservation Team

Heritage Branch, Environment and Heritage, Policy and Programs Group

Office of Environment & Heritage

AS DELEGATE OF THE NSW HERITAGE COUNCIL