

21 October 2013

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Dear Sir / Madam,

Sydney International Convention Centre Hotel (SSD 13-6116)

The Sydney Business Chamber welcomes and supports plans for the proposed international Convention Centre (ICC) Hotel proposal. The hotel will provide high quality accommodation and retail space within close proximity of the proposed Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre precinct, and as such is a vital component to the revitalization of the Darling Harbour area.

The Sydney Business Chamber, a division of the NSW Business Chamber, represents leading Sydney organisations from the corporate, public and not-forprofit sectors. The Chamber advocates for Sydney to be a competitive and sustainable global city. Tracing its heritage back to the Sydney Chamber of Commerce established in 1825, the Chamber is one of Sydney's oldest business institutions.

The Chamber believes that the construction of the ICC Hotel will be vital in providing a world class convention and exhibition space for Sydney. The hotel will provide high quality and accessible accommodation options for visitors and international delegates of major events

The Sydney and NSW Business Chamber are leading efforts to secure the World Chambers Congress to Sydney in 2017. The Congress is expected to attract 1500 to 2000 business leaders to the host city, and many of the delegates' families, which will be an enormous boost for the Sydney. The successful redevelopment of the convention and exhibition centre, including the proposed ICC Hotel, will be a key determinant to the success of our bid. The provision of high quality accommodation in and around the convention and exhibition centre will provide Sydney with the tools to compete in the Asian region for international business events.



The ICC Hotel, as a part of the larger Darling Harbour redevelopment, will facilitate greater connections between the CBD and surrounding suburbs such as Pyrmont and Ultimo, and create a better experience for visitors with the provision of ground-level retail space. The Chamber is pleased with the efforts that the developer has made in revising plans to maximize connectivity between the development and surrounding areas and minimise overshadowing in surrounding spaces. Combined with the additional retail and entertainment space the proposal provides, the development will further enhance the visitor experience in the area.

The Chamber wishes to thank the Department for the opportunity to comment on this development. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ash Salardini, Policy Advisor, NSW Business Chamber on 9458 7491, <u>ash.salardini@nswbc.com.au</u> or Patricia Forsythe 9350 8101, <u>patricia.forsythe@thechamber.com.au</u>.

Yours faithfully

Patricia Aosifle

The Hon Patricia Forsythe Executive Director