



DOC19/917937
SSI 9364

Ms Naomi Moss
Senior Planner
Transport Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Moss,

Re: Request for advice on M12 Motorway (SSI 9364)

I refer to the 15 October 2019 request for advice from the Environment, Energy and Science (EES) Group in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment on the Environmental Impact Statement for the above proposal.

The EES Group has reviewed the flooding assessment and has no comments.

The EES Group has not reviewed the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report due to resourcing issues.

The EES Group has reviewed the Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) and provides the following advice:

- The BAR adequately assesses the biodiversity impacts of the proposal in accordance with the *Framework for Biodiversity Assessment* (OEH, 2014).
- The BAR adequately assesses Matters of National Environmental Significance in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (Cth)*.
- Threatened species pre-clearance surveys will be required on those properties which could not be accessed due to private property restrictions. Depending on the results of these surveys, the number of species credits required to be offset may need to be recalculated.
- It is recommended any approval include a condition requiring the development of a biodiversity offset package, like condition B13 for the WestConnex New M5 State Significant Infrastructure project, to address any additional offset requirements as well as any supplementary measures if the required credits cannot be retired.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Richard Bonner, Senior Conservation Planning Officer on 9995 6917 or richard.bonner@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Susan Harrison
Senior Team Leader Planning
Greater Sydney
Climate Change and Sustainability