

3 September 2019

Dr. Neville Hodkinson  
Singleton Shire Healthy Environment Group

Via email: [ssheg@hotmail.com](mailto:ssheg@hotmail.com)

Re: State Significant Conservation Area - Cockfighters Valley Precinct

Dear Dr. Hodkinson

Thank you for your recent presentation to the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue (the Dialogue) Joint Environment Working Group in support of your project proposal regarding the State Significant Conservation Area of 'Cockfighters Valley'.

Working Group members discussed the proposal at length and agreed that a document seeking to create a thematic history of the Upper Hunter region and encompassing the rich indigenous and European history and contribution of key agricultural industries and the mining sector would be of significant interest and value to the Upper Hunter.

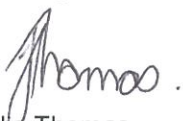
However, while the general principles of the proposal had merit, members felt that the Dialogue was not the appropriate organisation to have carriage of the project. Members agreed that a project of this nature would sit better as a multi-regional initiative rather than to a limited area and felt that the proposal lacked clear key outcomes and deliverables.

The Dialogue recommends that initiatives or funding programs be considered which may be better positioned and resourced to provide the required assistance for this proposal, including:

- Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) 'Heritage Near Me' funding program;
- Heritage Grants through Singleton Council;
- Aboriginal Community Advisory Group - Hunter Local Land Services;
- Engaging the services of a local archivist or historian to review information; and
- GIS mapping work being progressed through OEH, Resources Regulator, and the Synoptic Plan Review process.

The Dialogue understands the proposal has been discussed with various external stakeholders and we wish you success in any ongoing discussions.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julie Thomas'.

Julie Thomas  
Chair, Joint Environment Working Group  
**Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue**