

Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney  
NSW 2001

**Re: MPO8\_0098 – Modification – The Star Casino**

To Whom It May Concern

I write on behalf of the Australian Film Institute and the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts in support of the return of the Ritz-Carlton brand to Sydney, and in particular to The Star.

The Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts Awards (AACTA Awards) have honoured screen excellence in Australia by staging the prestigious AACTA Awards annually in Sydney at The Star Event Centre since 2013. As Australia's highest film and television Awards, the AACTA Awards are Australia's equivalent of the Oscars® and the British Academy Film and Television Academy Awards (BAFTAs).

The Event Centre at The Star is a befitting venue for the industry to celebrate and recognise Australia's highest achievements in film and television, as judged by the industry itself.

The event brings together Australia's leading talent including high profile Australian and international guests.

The development of a luxury Ritz-Carlton hotel would enable us to continue to grow our event in partnership with The Star, leading to an increase in the size and prominence of the prestigious AACTA Awards on the world stage.

We believe there is a mutual benefit for all stakeholders to be gained from this major development including the entertainment, tourism, and hospitality industries.

We support this development and look forward to its completion.

Yours sincerely



Damian Trewella  
CEO, Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts

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