

4 November 2015

Cameron Sargent
Team Leader, Key Site Assessments
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Cameron,

**State Significant Development Application SSD 6617: Notice of Exhibition
Remediation of part Hickson Road within EPA Declaration Area, Barangaroo**

Thank you for referring the above noted SSD application to Port Authority of NSW (Port Authority) for review and comment.

Port Authority of NSW largely reviewed the proposal in the context of the Overseas Passenger Terminal (OPT) at Circular Quay. The OPT is Sydney's primary cruise passenger terminal and Sydney is, by far, Australia's leading cruise ship destination. The number of cruise ships berthing at the OPT has grown from just 17 in the 2000/01 financial year to approximately 185 scheduled in the 2015/16 financial year. The pace of growth continues to be strong. In addition, cruise ships are tending to become larger and carry more passengers and crew, therefore requiring greater landside logistical arrangements to handle the passenger transfers, provisioning and servicing of the ships within very tight time frames for each visit.

Hickson Road is now the major access route to the OPT, particularly for the large 19m articulated trucks used to provide the ships, but also for coaches and other vehicles accessing the site during the course of each cruise ship call. The fundamental importance of Hickson Rd as an efficient access corridor, particularly for the large trucks, has increased to the point where it is and will be practically the only option due to other major CBD infrastructure works (e.g. light rail construction on George Street).

In this regard, Port Authority has the following comments on this proposal.

1. 24 hour access must be maintained on Hickson Road with any proposed lane diversions having a suitable geometry to accommodate unimpeded two-way traffic for fully-laden 19m articulated trucks. This is not addressed in the application and particularly in section 6.1.3 of Appendix S.
2. Port Authority requires a minimum of three months notification of road changes and closures in relation to the proposal so that we can inform the relevant OPT

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stakeholders (e.g. cruise lines, agents) and any necessary arrangements can be made in relation to the land-side logistics requirements for vessel visits during the period of disruption.

3. Port Authority requires that there are no major works on Hickson Road requiring temporary road closures scheduled to occur on cruise ship days at the OPT. In this regard, consultation with Port Authority should occur in accordance with point 2 above.
4. Port Authority requests to be specifically involved in on-going stakeholder consultation regarding the proposal and, in particular, with regard to any matters impacting traffic flows and access on Hickson Road.

The following additional points relate to specific matters in the EIS.

- Point 10 of the SEARs, referenced in Table 4 of Section 7 of the EIS, requires that the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) of the EIS evaluate other construction projects likely to occur during the remediation works. The TIA (Appendix S) and section 7.10.4 of the EIS does not address the traffic impacts of the George Street light rail project on the traffic flows associated with the OPT and, in particular, the providing trucks that are now required to access the OPT via Hickson Road due to George Street road closures. The Sydney Metro project is also not mentioned or considered but it is understood that a Metro station is being planned for Barangaroo Central and the construction works for this station could overlap with the proposed remediation works under SSD 6617.
- If sufficient information on the impact of construction works associated with the light rail on George Street is now available, Port Authority suggests that the cumulative traffic scenario is updated to fully consider the implications of this project on SSD 6617.
- Port Authority considers that the traffic assessment modelling and intersection analysis should be re-done based on current traffic numbers, not relying on traffic counts done in July 2013, which does not adequately reflect present-day conditions, current construction traffic impacts and traffic changes in the CBD, due in significant part to the light rail construction on George Street.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 9296-4674 or rbennett@portauthoritynsw.com.au with any questions regarding this submission. Port Authority requests that on-going consultation related to the proposal is coordinated with our General Manager Cruise, John McKenna, on 9296 4928 or jmckenna@portauthoritynsw.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



Ryan Bennett

Senior Planning & Sustainability Manager