



15 October 2021

Director - Social and Infrastructure Assessments  
Planning and Assessment  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Sir or Madam

**NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN BUNGENDORE - APPLICATION NO. SSD-14394209**

I refer to the above state significant development application.

**I strongly object to the proposal** for the following reasons:

Bungendore Park and the adjoining Common across Turallo Terrace, is Crown Land that is dedicated for public use and recreation. The site, bounded by a railway line and three local roads, is constrained even for a high school of 450 students and does not have capacity for expansion to accommodate the projected population growth with development of new housing estates outside the heritage village and within the catchment area. With the growth of student numbers, demountable school buildings as seen in every other jurisdiction will encroach on Mick Sherd oval and eventually swallow up Bungendore Park, the Common and its heritage precinct. Bungendore Park and the Common will cease to be a site for community use and recreation.

The community consultation (App 23) process is of limited value and does not accurately capture the community views as the proposal at the time of the consultation was poorly formed and the information relied upon in table 5 is statistically invalid. The data in table five is derived from a limited group of people that were able to attend the September 2020 Community Engagement Hub. Response were received from just 88 people out of a community of more than 4000. This represents less than 2% of the population. The engagement was also flawed in that the process failed to provide the opportunity for a large percentage of the community as the majority of sessions were held during working hours and were limited in attendance due to COVID-19 restrictions. If the survey was online, then it should have been reasonable open to allow all households to participate.

The Transport Assessment (App6a) is flawed as:

The transport assessment relies on route over the Turrillo low level crossing that is periodically closed due to flooding and there is no account for the re-routing of traffic (including foot and cycle traffic) the flooding causes (evidenced by the closure after overnight rains on 14 October); and

The assessment is based on only 147 students and only "captures students who attend public schools and who live within the Bungendore Town Centre and its

surrounds" (page 24). This disregards the total student population depicted in the catchment plan (figure 1.3) of the same assessment.

The Noise and Vibration Assessment (app 12) is equally flawed in that the traffic noise assessments were undertaken in April and May of 2021 during the COVID-19 health orders which significantly reduced the volumes of traffic using the road network in and around the proposed site.

The railway corridor and adjoining areas at Bungendore Station are lead contaminated as lead and zinc ores brought by train from Captains Flat mines were unloaded at Bungendore Station and reloaded for the line to Port Kembla. Lead contamination had earlier been discovered at Tarago Railway Station.

The heritage Assessment is incomplete as it states that "Due to Covid-19 restrictions, State Archives was closed and non-digitised maps and plans were not available". It also dismisses the heritage proclamation of the Bungendore Park as open space and reserved for parkland dating back to 1886.

Finally, the design proposed (App 3 and 4) does not conform to design principle 1 as the design does not "provide a positive contribution to the village character of the township and is not sympathetic to the surround historic buildings and rural aesthetic of the town.

The Social Impact Assessment (App 9) of the proposed site states that the proposal, "will have a low positive impact on the community." This in itself highlights that this proposal is unsuitable.

I have not, and no associate of mine, has made any political donation to any person in the 2 years preceding this submission.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]