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Mr Thomas Piovesan,
Department of Planning & Environment,
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Dear Mr Piovesan,

MOD 17 – The Star Casino – Former Part 3A Approval MP08_0098

Thank you very much for arranging the site inspection on 6 April, 2022. It was very helpful in clarifying what is proposed in MOD17.

We continue to oppose the expansion of unenclosed gaming areas at The Star, not only because of the noise emanating from the UGAs, but also because of the social and health impacts associated with enabling (enticing?) gamblers to remain at their machines while smoking. For those addicted to both gambling and smoking, this ensures they can continue both activities without interruption, with the potential for adverse health and financial/social impacts on the individuals and their families.

In addressing the noise impacts, we have been advised that The Star is currently replacing older poker machines on which staff can turn the volume of noise down to an acceptable level, with new machines on which patrons can control the volume. Nearby residents are already badly impacted by the noise emanating from the Mezzanine level UGA within the Jones Bay Road porte cochere, and, given the orientation of the louvred walls, we expect similar and cumulative noise impacts to such residents.

It is proposed to install a green wall where there is currently a balustrade but, as described to us on our site visit, it is clear that it will not be enough to mitigate the volume of noise from the new poker machines. We strongly recommend the installation of a frosted Plexiglas Noise Barrier (or similar) such as is used in the construction of motorways in built up areas. The wall will need to be higher than the existing balustrade and continue around the corner to ensure sound mitigation and privacy for The Star's near neighbours overlooked by this venue.

Furthermore, there are large walls surrounding the proposed UGA which will remain untreated with noise mitigation measures resulting in sound bouncing off these hard surfaces, as it does currently within the porte cochere. We recommend noise mitigation measures for these walls as well.

We strongly oppose the use of speakers and music in the Level 1 Pirrama Road OGA, the Oasis OGA fronting Pyrmont Street, and the Sovereign Level 3 OGA as this will add to the already distressing noise impacts experienced by close residential neighbours of the Star.



We reject all the conclusions in the Summary of Assessment of these modifications (Table 1, p3, Statement of Environmental Effects). Although the space to be converted to an OGA is currently not being used, the number of additional staff to be employed is unlikely to be significant and there is no cost/benefit analysis provided of the potential costs associated with the enabling of gambling and smoking addicts to feed both their habits simultaneously. It is difficult to comprehend how such activities can be described as "entertainment", and does Sydney's "economic competitiveness" really have to rest on the ability of people to gamble and smoke?

We ask the Department of Planning to carefully consider the downsides of MOD17 – noise impacts on residential neighbours, and the facilitation of increased negative health and social impacts on those with gambling and nicotine addictions, and reject this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Elenius, Convenor

cc Alex Greenwich, MP, Hon Rob Stokes, Minister for Cities

