



DOC17/599006-1
SSD 8012

Ms Amy Watson
Team Leader, Key Sites Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
amy.watson@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Watson

OEH Review of Response to Submissions – 50 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle – mixed use development (SSD 8012)

I refer to your email dated 16 October 2017, seeking comments on the Review of Submissions Report for mixed use development located on 50 Honeysuckle Drive at Newcastle; in the Newcastle City local government area.

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has undertaken a review of the 'Response to Submissions' document for the mixed-use development proposal for 50 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle, and prepared by SJB Planning (NSW) Pty Ltd.

OEH considers that the Response to Submissions document adequately address the biodiversity and Aboriginal cultural heritage issues raised in OEH's review of the Environmental Impact Statement. OEH's recommendations are provided in **Attachment A** and detailed comments are provided in **Attachment B**.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Steven Cox, Senior Team Leader, Planning team on 4927 3140.

Yours sincerely

14/12/2017

SHARON MOLLOY
Director
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Regional Operations Division

Enclosure: Attachment A and B

Attachment A

OEH's Recommendations

Mixed-use development (50 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle)

1. OEH is satisfied there is no need for the application of the FBA or the preparation of a BAR for the mixed-use development at 50 Honeysuckle Drive.
2. OEH is satisfied that all Aboriginal heritage assessment components have now been adequately addressed and no further assessment is required.

Attachment B

OEH's detailed comments

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has undertaken a review of the 'Response to Submissions' document for the mixed-use development proposal for 50 Honeysuckle Drive, Newcastle, and prepared by SJB Planning (NSW) Pty Ltd. OEH has reviewed this report in relation to biodiversity, Aboriginal cultural heritage, and flooding/floodplain matters, and provides the following comments.

1. Biodiversity

1.1 OEH is satisfied that the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment does not need to be applied

OEH's review of the Environmental Impact Statement concluded that a Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) had not been provided and an exemption to the application of the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA) had not been requested. OEH concurred with the proponent that the site was highly disturbed and likely devoid of biodiversity values. As such OEH requested either a BAR be provided or a request for exemption be made.

The proponent has now requested an exemption from the FBA and the requirement to provide a BAR, on the basis the proposed site is an at-grade car park, does not contain any native vegetation and is unlikely to provide habitat for any threatened species. OEH concur with this assessment and agree that there is no need for the application of the FBA or the preparation of a BAR.

Recommendation

OEH is satisfied there is no need for the application of the FBA or the preparation of a BAR for the mixed-use development at 50 Honeysuckle Drive.

2. Aboriginal cultural heritage

2.1 OEH is satisfied with the findings of the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment

OEH has reviewed the Aboriginal cultural heritage component of the RTS and notes that all Aboriginal heritage assessment components have now been adequately addressed.

Recommendation

OEH is satisfied that all Aboriginal heritage assessment components have now been adequately addressed and no further assessment is required.