

Office of Environment & Heritage

DOC19/409507 SSD-8665

> Mr Cameron Sargent Key Sites Assessments NSW Department of Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Karl Fetterplace

Dear Mr Sargent

OEH comments on Response to Submissions and variation to the SCRA Scheme – Refurbishment of the Mercantile Hotel including new rooftop bar – 25-27 George Street, The Rocks (SSD 8665)

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2019 received by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) requesting comments on the Response to Submissions (RTS) and variation to the SCRA Scheme for the above State Significant Development.

OEH has reviewed the RTS and provides recommendations and comments in Attachment A.

If you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Janne Grose on 8837 6017 or janne.grose@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

S. Hannison 23/05/19

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Attachment A

OEH comments on Response to Submissions and variation to the SCRA Scheme – Refurbishment of the Mercantile Hotel including new rooftop bar – 25-27 George Street, The Rocks (SSD 8665)

Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has reviewed the following relevant reports for the above State Significant Development (SSD):

- Response to Submission (RTS) 13 May 2019
- Heritage Addendum

and provides the following comments below.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

OEH in its submission on the EIS recommended that in addition to the recommendations contained in the Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment prepared by Unearthed Archaeology and Heritage dated October 2017 the consent for this project should include the following conditions:

- 1. Inspection should be made of the ground surface underlying the existing slab/bitumen ground surfaces upon removal for the proposed development by a qualified archaeologist to confirm the historical disturbance within the areas of proposed works
- 2. If, during the proposed works, any Aboriginal objects or evidence of Aboriginal occupation is uncovered, all work must cease in the area surrounding the Aboriginal object or evidence of occupation, and further advice should be sought from a qualified archaeologist.

If the SSD is approved, OEH repeats its advice above.

(END OF SUBMISSION)