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David Gibson Team Leader – Industry, Social Projects & Key Sites NSW Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001 e-mail: <u>David.Gibson@planning.nsw.gov.au</u>

Dear David

RE: Modification Request for University of Sydney Abercrombie Precinct Redevelopment (MP07_0158 MOD 5) – Student Accommodation Building

Thank you for your letter received 13 August 2014 notifying us of the proposal to further modify the above mentioned major project MP07_0158.

It is noted that the proposed modification seeks the following:

- The installation of rooftop solar panels.
- The consolidation of plant and equipment enclosures to one area on the central tower.
- Design changes to the decorative/privacy screens to the Abercrombie Street frontage

The following comments are provided on the proposed modification for your consideration:

Solar panels

The City of Sydney has set a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the entire local area to 70% below 2006 levels by 2030. This includes a target of 30% of electricity from renewable sources.

To achieve the 2030 target, the City actively promotes the use of renewable energy sources and supports the proposed inclusion of both the photo voltaic panels and solar hot water panels on the upper roof top elements of the student accommodation building.

The small parapet, the setback of the panels from the parapet edge, and the mounting height of the panels depicted on the plans will ensure that they are not readily visible from surrounding areas, nor cause adverse glare or reflectively effects.

Consolidation of Plant

The modification and consolidation of plant towards the northern end of the central rooftop tower element of the building is a distinct improvement on the previous three enclosures approved for plant, and is supported.

Decorative/Privacy Screens

The modified design for the screens is considered less vibrant/striking than the original design and the finely cut design may tend to merge and be less distinguishable. However, no significant objection is raised to the design change.

It is recommended that the copper colour of the screens be maintained.

If you would like to speak to a Council officer about the above, please contact Alistair Smith, Senior Planner, on 9265 9112 or e-mail <u>asmith1@cityofsydney.nsw.qov.au</u>

Yours sincerely,

Graham Jahn AM **Director** City Planning I Development I Transport