

Our ref: DOC20/865450

Senders ref: SSD7308 (Penrith)

Nathan Heath
Planning Officer KSIA
Social and Other Infrastructure Assessments
Planning and Assessment Group
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Mr Heath,

Subject: Modification 1 – Rail siding refurbishment works package, St Marys Freight Hub, Forrester Road, St Marys (SSD 7308)

Thank you for your letter received 21 October 2020, requesting input from Environment, Energy and Science Group (EES) in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on the Rail siding refurbishment works package at St Marys Freight Hub, Forrester Road, St Marys.

The modification application seeks the following:

- rail refurbishment works for existing tracks
- revised development footprint of the intermodal facility to include rail works area
- construction management facilities (construction access roads, compounds, etc).

EES has reviewed the Modification Report prepared by Urbanco dated October 2020 and makes the following comments.

Biodiversity

Under section 7.17 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, applications for the modification of major projects must be accompanied by a biodiversity development assessment report unless the consent authority is satisfied that the modification will not increase the impact on biodiversity values. To assist Planning and Assessment Group in making this decision, EES has no additional biodiversity comments.

Flooding

The approved freight hub adopted shelter in place on the land above the PMF within the site as the primary emergency strategy. Although, South Creek Flood Study 2015 shows reasonable area within the hub above South Creek PMF level (i.e. flood free), it is prudent to prepare an Emergency Management Plan to address the feasibility for safe evacuation of the workers and users of the site to this flood free area. Consultation with the State Emergency Service is also prudent as the site is partially within the Hawkesbury- Nepean Regional flood extent.

Please note from 1 July 2020, Aboriginal cultural heritage (ACH) regulation, including advice on SSIs and SSDs, is now managed by Heritage NSW. The new contact for the ACH regulation team is heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Bronwyn Smith, Senior Conservation Planning Officer on 9873 8604 or bronwyn.smith@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Harrison". The script is cursive and fluid.

02/11/20

Susan Harrison
Senior Team Leader Planning
Greater Sydney Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation