



Our ref: DOC21/280040  
Your ref: SSD-10349252

Ingrid Berzins  
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Advice provided via the Major Projects Portal

Dear Ingrid

**Advice on EIS and recommended conditions – State Significant Development – The Children’s Hospital at Westmead – Pediatric Hospital (SSD 10349252)**

Thank you for your referral uploaded to the Major Projects Portal on 12 April 2021 seeking advice on the proposal and recommended conditions for the above state significant development (SSD) proposal.

In preparing the following advice we have reviewed the following documents:

- SEARs for SSD-10349252, issued 20 November 2020
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) – prepared by Jacobs, dated 3 March 2021
- Environmental Impact Statement SSD 10349252 – Paediatric Services Building (PSB) The Children’s Hospital at Westmead – prepared by Architectus, dated 6 April 2021
- Preliminary Construction Management Plan (CEMP) – prepared by Price Waterhouse Coopers dated December 2020

Heritage NSW has reviewed the ACHAR prepared by Jacobs. It is understood that the proposal area is located within a wider cultural landscape of high cultural significance. The PSB has close proximity to Parramatta River, as well as locations used in deep time and during interactions with historical colonists. An AHIMS site is recorded 30 meters outside of the study area and represents the relationship to water, and the resources associated with Parramatta River. The archaeological investigation was completed in accordance with the *Code of Practice for the Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (2010).

There are no direct impacts to Aboriginal objects identified by the ACHAR. Potential visual impacts to the Parramatta River and associated Aboriginal cultural heritage values (ACH) have been identified. It is understood that specific design elements for external portions of the proposed structures have been developed in consultation with the Parramatta City Council Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group Workshop. These design elements would mitigate potential visual impacts by referencing identified ACH values with specific emphasis on the convergence of the three waterways, Toongabbie creek, Mills creeks, and Parramatta River.

It is understood that consultation in accordance with the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (2010) is ongoing. It is noted that the draft version of the ACHAR was provided to Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) on 1 March 2021. Comments from RAPs have not been incorporated into this version of the ACHAR.

The ACHAR has been prepared in accordance with the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (2011). However, the ACHAR is not considered to be complete and a final version of the ACHAR is required.

The management and mitigation recommendations provided in Section 8.0 (page 48) of the ACHAR and Table 16 (page 105) of the EIS are considered adequate. In addition, the following recommendations are provided:

- A final version of the ACHAR should be provided that incorporates any comments received from RAPs in accordance with the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* (2011).
- Mitigation strategies around “Unexpected Finds” protocols and a cultural heritage induction should be incorporated into the CEMP for the proposal.
- An Aboriginal heritage interpretation strategy for the proposal should be developed that reflects the ACH values identified within and surrounding the general vicinity of the proposal area. This should be developed in consultation with the RAPs for the proposal.

If you have any further questions in relation to this matter, please contact Claire Rayner – Archaeologist, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation North on 9995 6824 or email at [Claire.rayner@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Claire.rayner@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**Dr Samantha Higgs**  
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**Heritage NSW**  
22 April 2021