



Our ref: DOC21/415995-18
Your ref: SSD-8706

Rodger Roppolo
Senior Planning Officer
Industry Key Sites
Department of Planning Industry and Environment
Email: rodger.roppolo@planning.nsw.gov.au

Advice provided via the Major Projects Portal

Dear Mr Roppolo,

Notice of Exhibition – Night Racing at Royal Randwick Racecourse (SSD-8706) (Randwick)

Thank you for your referral dated 26 May 2021 inviting comment from Heritage NSW on the proposed Night Racing at Royal Randwick Racecourse.

Heritage NSW has reviewed the available supporting documentation and provides comments in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation matters below.

The following reports were considered in our assessment:

- Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for SSD-8706;
- Royal Randwick Racecourse Night Racing: Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Assessment, dated 24 October 2017 prepared by McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd; and
- Royal Randwick Racecourse Night Racing: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), dated 7 May 2021 and prepared by Urbis.

Heritage NSW has reviewed the due diligence report prepared by McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd. We note that this report does not fulfill the requirements of the SEARs because it was not undertaken in accordance with the [Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in New South Wales](#) and does not include a process of Aboriginal consultation undertaken in line with [Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2010](#). Undertaking Aboriginal consultation may provide further information about the cultural values of the land.

In consideration of the available documentation Heritage NSW provides the following recommendations:

- An updated search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database be undertaken as the previous search was undertaken on 13 October 2017 and the search results are only valid for 12 months.
- Section 2.2 of the report be updated because:
 - it currently references the Lake Macquarie area; and
 - numerous archaeological studies have been undertaken in the local Randwick area since 2017 which have identified significant sites and a natural sand body of

archaeological sensitivity immediately south of the racecourse. These sites and additional studies need to be considered.

- Additionally, the potential for the proposed works (e.g. trenching for cabling associated with the installation of lighting) to impact on Aboriginal sites that may occur at depth must also be evaluated.

Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation advice

Given the landscape the development is located within, we support raising the cultural awareness of contractors working on site and provide additional recommendations:

- Any Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness inductions would benefit from the involvement of Aboriginal community representatives.
- An Unexpected Finds Protocol for Aboriginal objects needs to be included as part of any Construction Environmental Management Plan (CMP) prepared for the development works.

The EIS and due diligence report also contain several errors that need to be revised including:

- contacting the Office of Environment and Heritage under sections 1.5.1 and 5.3 (Due Diligence report pages 10 and 19) if Aboriginal objects are found during works. This should now refer to Heritage NSW.

Please note: the above comments relate to Aboriginal cultural heritage regulation matters only. You may wish to seek separate advice from Heritage NSW in relation to matters under the *Heritage Act 1977*.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice please contact Sarah Robertson, Archaeologist, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation at Heritage NSW on (02) 6229 7088 or via email at sarah.robertson@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Jackie Taylor
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Heritage NSW
11 August 2021