

Rose-anne Hawkswood
Planning and Assessment
Major Projects
By email: rose-anne.hawkswood@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Rose-anne

Mod 1: Moomba to Sydney Pipeline (SSI-15548591) - Installation of compressor stations

Thank you for the opportunity for Heritage NSW (HNSW) to comment on the Aboriginal cultural heritage (ACH) assessment for the proposed Moomba to Wilton gas pipeline modification. HNSW has not identified significant issues with the ACH assessment or Aboriginal consultation. Two minor matters regarding consultation are raised further below. HNSW request that the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE) consider both matters.

Overall acceptance of the ACH assessment and Aboriginal consultation

HNSW accept the ACH assessment undertaken to determine threats to ACH and is also satisfied with the Aboriginal consultation undertaken and, accept the stage 1 notification undertaken by the proponent as previously advised (Appendix A: HNSW advice, DOC21/196544).

The ACH assessment of the two proposed compressor stations, MW433 and MW880, identified that the proposed construction activities for MW880 will cause low to negligible risk to ACH at MW880 but a significant site was identified within the broader construction area for proposed station MW433. HNSW recognize that the proposed management recommendations to be put in place at MW433 have adequate measures that will minimise and avoid harm to Aboriginal objects.

Aboriginal site MW433-OS1

Aboriginal site MW433-OS1 is described as a background artefact scatter located near the proposed MW433 station with parts that have been heavily disturbed. It is HNSW understanding from the ACH documentation that the significance of the site is broadly based on an association with a quarry site at Round Hill which is located 1.2 km from the project area. The landform context of MW433-OS1 is also considered to be of relevance (EMM 2021:56-57).

Aboriginal consultation matters

It is our understanding from the tabled communication log that the RAPs support the proposed management measures which involve, relocating the Aboriginal objects (stone artefacts) to areas outside of the disturbance footprint. However, correspondence from a registered party, Mr Gerald Quayle, recommends that the objects be salvaged and stored at Peery Lake on the nearby Paroo Darling National Park.

Although it is common practice for objects to be relocated outside of a development footprint (for cultural reasons) the alternative suggestion put forward by Mr Quayle must be addressed. Mr Quayle also recommends that the siting of the proposed development at MW433 is in an area that may impact his cultural tourist ventures (EMM 2021: Appendix C correspondence from Mr G. Quayle).

HNSW has not sighted in the ACH documentation a response to Mr Quayle's recommendations and we request therefore that the proponent address these matters and inform DPIE and HNSW of outcomes.

HNSW have also noted that the records of the meetings with the RAPs to discuss the project and management strategies are omitted from the report (Appendix C.4). Should the records include matters on the management of ACH and the draft ACH assessment report, additional to that described in the consultation log and consultation summaries, then the records must be provided to DPIE and HNSW for consideration.

HNSW accept proposed ACH management measures at MW433

HNSW accept in principle the proposed measures to manage and mitigate harm to Aboriginal objects associated with the portion of MW-OS1 albeit the outstanding matters to be resolved as discussed above.

HNSW also considered the close proximity of Paroo Darling National Park (Peery Lake) where voluminous amounts of Aboriginal cultural material are preserved, and a significant portion have been subject to non-invasive research (on-site).

HNSW make no comment regarding the proposed recommendation for a grievance mechanism (EMM 2021:62) which is a matter for the proponent and the Registered Aboriginal Parties. We do not have an arbitration role in grievance or conflict resolution matters. HNSW assess the adequacy of the ACH assessment and consultation. Where appropriate we offer guidance to the determining authority to gain ACH outcomes that preserve heritage including, providing advice on any cultural matters for the decision maker's consideration.

Negligible harm at MW880

HNSW is satisfied that the proposed works at station MW880 will not harm any cultural material and recognise that the proposed unexpectant finds protocol will be applied as a precaution.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Phil Purcell, Archaeologist at Heritage NSW, on 68835341 or phil.purcell@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



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