

Our ref: DOC20/695512

Ms Belinda Scott Department of Planning Industry and Environment 320 Pitt Street Sydney NSW 2000

By email: Belinda.scott@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Scott,

Notice of Exhibition of application for (Inland Rail North Star to NSW Queensland Border) (SSI-9371)

Thank you for your referral dated 25 August 2020 inviting comments from the Heritage Council of NSW on the above State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) proposal.

The proposed development involves:

- The construction of an interstate rail corridor between Melbourne and Brisbane through central-west NSW including:
 - Upgrading existing and providing new rail corridors
 - Areas of temporary disturbance including laydown areas, access tracks, and a workers camp at North Star.
 - o Eleven new bridges

The proposed SSD/SSI does not affect any State Heritage Register Items. Areas of historical heritage and archaeology were identified during investigations for the project.

The following reports were considered in our assessment:

• Historical Heritage Technical Report, prepared by Future Freight Joint Venture, no date.

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW, I provide the following comments:

- A total of 15 places of historic heritage value were identified, including archaeological sites, sidings, and a survey mark.
- Impact to some historic heritage items are predicted. Mitigation measures proposed include archival recording, archaeological survey and excavation and an unexpected finds procedure. The proposed mitigation measures and their presentation in a heritage management plan for the project is supported.

As the site contains local items in the vicinity, advice should be sought from the relevant local council.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please contact Rebecca Newell, Senior Historical Archaeology Officer at Heritage NSW on 9873 8632 or Rebecca.newell@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

23 September 2020

Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM

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Senior Team Leader, Specialist Services

Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet

As Delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW