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Ms Amy Watson
Team Leader, Key Sites & Social Projects
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

ATTN: Fiona Gibson

Dear Ms Watson

RE: Revised Heritage Council comments on proposed modification to Condition D2 (Aboriginal & European Archaeology) – submission of Interpretation Plan – SSD 4949- 157-163 Cleveland Street, Redfern.

I refer to your letter dated 25th of June 2014 requesting additional Heritage Council comments on the revised information submitted as part of the proposed Section 96 modification to modify development consent SSD-4949-2011 to amend Condition D2 (h) relating to the timing for the submission of the final interpretation plan for the site to the Heritage Council and the modification of the building awning.

Condition D2(h): Aboriginal & European Archaeology requires that “*An outline of the on-site interpretation plan, including information on the display and housing of artefacts, is submitted to the Heritage Council of NSW for comment and endorsement within six (6) months of the completion of the excavation programme. Final details of the interpretation plan must be submitted to the Heritage Council of NSW for comment and endorsement within six (6) months of the completion of the final excavation report for the site*”.

This application seeks to change the timeframe for the submission of the final interpretation plan to the Heritage Council from 6 to 12 months after the completion of the final excavation report. It is noted that the final excavation report for this site was received by the Heritage Council in December of 2013, meaning that currently, the final interpretation plan is due in June 2014.

If the Heritage Council were to support this modification, the amended date for the submission of the final Interpretation Plan for the site would be December 2014.

The Heritage Council has previously provided comments on the proposed modification in June 2014. In these comments the Heritage Council concluded that it could not currently support the proposed modification because the Applicant had not met the first part of Condition D2(h) by supplying the outline of the on-site interpretation plan.

It is noted that the revised information submitted by the Department of Planning for review takes the form of a Preliminary Interpretation Outline for 157-163 Cleveland Street, Redfern by RPS Australia. Accordingly, this Interpretation Outline document has been reviewed as part of this modification request.

Generally, this Interpretation Outline is not considered adequate. It does not provide any depth of detail or guidance in regards to the proposed interpretation at this site. Nor does it detail how the archaeology would be incorporated into the interpretation. Therefore, the outline of the interpretation plan should be amended to include the information detailed under Section 2.0 of this plan under the section titled 'Stage 1: Interpretation Strategy' with the final interpretation plan containing both the information detailed under the above heading and that contained under the heading 'Stage 2: Develop Content'.

Given that the final interpretation plan was due last month and the draft interpretation plan is not considered adequate, it would appear that the Heritage Council has limited opportunity to disagree with the proposed change in date for the submission of the final interpretation plan to December 2014. However, this should only be done with the proviso Condition D2(h) is also updated to reflect that an amended and updated Interpretation Outline must resubmitted to the Heritage Council for approval by 1 September, 2014.

It is also noted that the City of Sydney provided comment on the proposed modification request regarding the interpretation strategy. They state that *"as the required interpretation plan will be submitted to and endorsed by the Heritage Council of NSW, the City raises no objection to the proposed extension of time. In regard to the carrying out of interpretation works for the site, the City recommends that the Department consider imposition of a condition requiring all endorsed interpretation works be completed prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate"*.

The Heritage Council concurs with the above recommendation and considers that the Department of Planning & Environment should include a specific condition linking the completed interpretation works to the issue of an Occupation Certificate.

The Heritage Council again makes no comment regarding the modification to the proposed awning.

If you have any questions regarding the above advice, please feel free to contact Katrina Stankowski at Katrina.Stankowski@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



02/07/2014

Dr Siobhan Lavelle, OAM
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As Delegate of the NSW Heritage Council