



13 May 2020

Suite 117, 25 Solent Circuit
Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153
ABN: 50 160 157 666

Jaron Hoffenberg
Project Manager
TSA Management

Level 15
207 Kent Street
Sydney, NSW, 2000

Affirmation of Independence of Auditor

As required by the Alex Avenue Project SSD 9368 CoC 30, this letter overviews the experience and independence of the nominated independent auditor for the Project, Richard Johnson, Director of Aspect Environmental Pty Ltd (Aspect). Richard holds tertiary qualifications in science and law and is an Exemplar Global certified auditor (Cert. No. 204520), having been originally certified as an environmental auditor in 1997 by Det Norske Veritas.

Richard is currently the approved Independent Auditor for the Jordan Springs School Project (SSD 9354), Fairvale High School Project (SSD 8677), Greystanes Public School Project (SSD 8778) and Lindfield Learning Village Project (SSD 8114), having completed the Independent Audit Program and the initial Independent Environmental Audits for Construction and Operation.

Richard has 30 years' experience in environmental management covering strategic planning, regulatory, operational and advisory roles and responsibilities across the infrastructure, resources, property, water and energy sectors. This experience comes from 15 years in the public sector and 15 in private sector consulting.

Richard has led the coordination and delivery of environmental services sections of public infrastructure and global consulting firms, including TransGrid, CH2M Hill, Hyder (now Arcadis), WSP Environmental and WSP/PB. Richard has been responsible for multi-disciplinary services and project delivery teams ranging from 12 – 260 staff with operating and revenue budgets between \$8M - \$42M across Australia and New Zealand.

Richard is supported by a team of environmental management and health and safety professionals at Aspect.

Independence of Auditor

In accordance with IAPAR (2018) it is confirmed that the nominated auditor, Richard Johnson, including the supporting team at Aspect, is independent from the project and free from any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.

It is confirmed that the nominated auditor is not/does not/has not:

1. Related to any proponent, owner, operator or other entity involved in the delivery of the project. Such a relationship includes that of employer/employee, a business partnership, sharing a common employer, a contractual arrangement outside an Independent Audit, or that of a spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child
2. Have any pecuniary interest in the project, proponent or related entities. Such an interest includes where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain (other than being reimbursed for performing the audit) or loss to the auditor, or their spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child
3. Provided services (not including independent reviews or auditing) to the project with the result that they audit work performed by themselves or their company, except as otherwise declared to the Department prior to the audit
4. An Environmental Representative for the project
5. Accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit from auditee organisations, their employees or any interested party, or knowingly allow colleagues to do so.

So declared by Richard Johnson, Director Aspect Environmental Pty Ltd on 13 May 2020.

Richard Johnson

Director, Aspect Environmental Pty Ltd

Full Name

Position



13 May 2020

Signed

Date

A copy of this declaration is to be emailed to the Department (compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au) by the proponent as part of the submission seeking agreement to the auditor.