

Mr Darren Sturgiss
Director
Bathurst Regional Council
158 Russell Street
BATHURST NSW 2795

08/11/2019

Dear Mr Sturgiss

**Revised Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements
Bathurst Second Circuit (SSD 9681)**

Please find attached Revised Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above-mentioned development. **Attachment 1** provides guidelines which may assist in the preparation of the EIS.

The attached SEARs have been prepared in consultation with the relevant government agencies (see **Attachment 2**). These SEARs are based on the scoping report prepared by SMEC, dated 27 September 2019, and replace the SEARs issued on 21 December 2019.

Please note the Planning Secretary may alter the SEARs at any time. You must consult further with the Department if you do not lodge a development application (DA) and EIS for the development within two years of the date of issue of these SEARs.

I wish to emphasise the importance of effective and genuine community consultation and the need for the proposal to proactively respond to the community's concerns. A comprehensive, detailed and genuine community consultation and engagement process must be undertaken during the preparation of the EIS. This process must ensure the community is informed of the development and engaged with issues of concern to it. Sufficient information must be provided to the community to enable a good understanding of the development and any potential impacts.

On 25 September 2019, the Commonwealth determined the proposed development will impact on matters of national environmental significance (MNES), protected under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Accordingly, the proposed development has been declared a controlled action and will require assessment and approval under the EPBC Act before it can proceed. The proposed development will be assessed under Part 4, Division 4.7 of the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* which is an accredited process.

The Commonwealth has provided Guidelines for preparing assessment documentation relevant to the EPBC Act for the proposed development, which are attached to this letter.

In addition, the revised SEARs reflect the additional lots sought to form part of the development, as well as the inclusion of additional facilities, being a Hotel, Driver Education Centre and Driver Training Centre.

Please contact the Department at least **two weeks** before you lodge the EIS and any associated documentation for the development. This will enable the Department to confirm:

- the applicable fee (see Division 1AA, Part 15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*)

- consultation and public exhibition arrangements.

If you have any questions, please contact Ania Dorocinska on 9274 6225 or at ania.dorocinska@planning.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Ritchie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Ritchie
Director
Industry Assessments

as delegate for the Secretary

Enclosed/Attached: [if additional documents]