



FOX STUDIOS AUSTRALIA

17 July 2019

Attention: Aditi Coomar  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
320 Pitt Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Ms Coomar,

**Fox Studios Australia Pty Ltd Response to EIS reference DA SSD 19 9835**

Fox Studios Australia (FSA) presents the following submission in response to the public exhibition of the Stage 2 Sydney Stadium Redevelopment DA documentation.

**Summary of objection**

FSA objects to approval being given to the application in its current form. FSA has particular concerns that the proposal in its current form will materially affect the FSA studios from functioning as a film and television production facility with purpose built sound stages, and that the assessment of the likely impacts of the proposal which has been carried out to date is inadequate and likely to understate the true noise and vibration impacts which FSA will suffer during construction.

The FSA site is a significant and close neighbour of the Proposed Sydney Football Stadium with a common 220m boundary, and is arguably the most affected receiver for the duration of the construction due to its proximity to the Stadium site. The FSA site operates 24/7, 365 days per week and spans over 32-acres, comprising of 45 buildings with over 58,000sqm of GFA. Accommodated at the site are 65 independent film, television and media businesses employing in excess of 1,500 people every day.

In addition to its eco-system of full time businesses, the studio contains facilities, infrastructure and services to accommodate and facilitate international and domestic film and television production. The studio regularly has multiple productions occurring concurrently with crew levels often in excess of 2,500 people. These activities are a key economic driver for Australia and NSW with the studio having attracted in excess of \$2Bn worth of international feature films since its inception. Recent credits for FSA include: Peter Rabbit I & II, Alien: Covenant, Pacific Rim Uprising, Hacksaw Ridge, The Wolverine and The Great Gatsby. In addition, the studio accommodates a range of reoccurring Australian television shows including The Voice, Australia's Got Talent, The X Factor, Little Big Shots, This Time Next Year and Dancing with the Stars.

FSA recognises that this is Stage 2 of the approval process and a previous Concept Stage for the Stadium Redevelopment already has consent. FSA reviewed the previous Concept Proposal (Stage 1) and decided not to make a submission in response because there were





minimal productions planned during the Stage 1 works which could be affected by the proposed works.

The Stage 2 works, however, are much more extensive and are programmed to coincide with a major motion picture production from the Disney-owned Marvel Studios which is being filmed predominately at FSA. This film was secured with the financial assistance of the NSW State and Australian Federal Government. The reported \$150m Marvel film will provide a major economic boost to the Australian screen sector and the State of NSW, employing up to 2,300 people during its production. (see Appendix 2 Press Release)

The Marvel Studios production is programmed to commence pre-production in August 2019, with filming scheduled for late 2019 and concluding mid- 2020. FSA then has tentative bookings from mid-2020 onwards.

The Premier announced on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019, the creation of more than 500 local jobs when the Disney-owned visual effects company Industrial Light & Magic (ILM) sets up a new studio in July 2020 within the FSA complex. (see Appendix 3 Press Release)

There are potentially significant economic consequences, not just for FSA, but for NSW and the Australian Film Industry, if FSA's operations are impacted by the construction of the Sydney Football Stadium in a manner which prevents normal use of the sound stages, or disrupts the operation of its business at the Moore Park Site, both during the Marvel Studios production and any subsequent filming.

FSA believes that key considerations relating to privacy, access, noise and vibration have not been properly addressed in the current Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

In this submission, FSA sets out its concerns and recommends key additional investigations that the proponent should be required to carry out, prior to any consent being given. Without that further information, FSA submits that an informed decision about the DA cannot be made.

If, following that further assessment, the Department recommends that consent be granted, FSA has identified a number of matters which should be included in any conditions of consent.

### **Acoustics and Vibration**

Given the nature of the activities undertaken at FSA, combined with the very quiet noise environment of FSA despite its proximity to Moore Park Road, FSA is particularly sensitive to noise and vibration impacts.

Filming occurs both outdoors and inside specially designed sound stages, in addition to retro-fitted sound stages, and these locations are extremely sensitive to noise sources from offsite. To ensure that offsite construction activities do not impact on activities within the sound stages, it is essential that construction activities be inaudible within each sound stage. Failure to achieve this acoustic environment compromises FSA's position as a world leading and world renowned film studio.

FSA has commissioned a review by a specialist acoustic consultant, Acoustic Dynamics, of the Acoustic and Vibration Impact Assessment prepared by Arup (**Arup Assessment**) to support the Stage 2 DA application. A copy of the Acoustic Dynamics Acoustic Opinion dated 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019 is included as Appendix 1 to this letter.





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The Acoustic Dynamics Acoustic Opinion identifies a number of shortcomings in the Arup Assessment and raises concerns in the following key areas which will impact the operations of FSA. Specifically, the Arup Assessment:

- Fails to undertake short and long-term noise monitoring at a location representative of FSA;
- Fails to assess airborne construction noise in a manner which acknowledges FSA as very sensitive to noise as per the Interim Construction Noise Guideline (ICNG);
- Fails to carry out a realistic assessment of potential noise and vibration impacts when construction work occurs along the eastern boundary of the site nearest to FSA;
- Fails to consider the potential vibration impacts of activities involving excavators, dozers, compacting equipment and other vibration intensive works; and
- Incorrectly shows the location of FSA buildings as being further from the Stadium boundary on the submitted architectural plans

The Acoustic Dynamics Acoustic Opinion concludes that noise emissions from the proposed Stadium redevelopment are likely to be much higher than those predicted in the Arup Assessment, and that even the exceedances predicted by the proponent's consultant Arup (which likely underestimates the true impacts) are not befitting the noise sensitive nature of FSA's site. This is of significant concern to FSA.

The Department should require the proponent to undertake further specific investigations as set out in the Acoustic Dynamics Acoustic Opinion, because the Arup Assessment which was publicly exhibited with the EIS is inadequate and potentially incorrect. Acoustic Dynamic recommends that the proponent be required to:

- Undertake long and short-term background noise monitoring at a location representative of FSA at Moore Park.
- In accordance with the ICNG (Section 14.1.3) the Department recognise FSA as a noise-sensitive business and undertake further investigations to determine the maximum internal noise levels as detailed in AS 2107 -2016 Acoustics in relation to the FSA studios.
- Meet the strictest criteria for assessment of noise intrusion which is likely to be background minus 15dB, so that construction activities are inaudible within the FSA sound stages.
- Prepare a modelling assessment of the vibration intensive works taking into account **all** equipment likely to be used, particularly in relation to activities along the eastern boundary. Conditions of any consent should then limit the approved development to using that nominated equipment and not allow the use of other equipment which may have a potentially greater acoustic or vibration impact.
- Model indicative noise emission levels received at the nearest sensitive building in FSA Studios, assuming that the full range of likely construction equipment is being used on the eastern boundary of the redevelopment site
- Provide a revised and detailed Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan as part of the DA and before consent is granted, which includes appropriate and stringent consideration of FSA as a sensitive noise receiver. The Construction Management Plan which forms Appendix AA to the EIS is patently inadequate to recognise FSA's special circumstances as a very noise sensitive location. In fact, the Construction Management





## FOX STUDIOS AUSTRALIA

Plan does not have any specific recognition of FSA as a direct neighbour or the likely acoustic and vibration impacts of construction works along the shared boundary.

- Require the inclusion of all construction activities involving excavators and other omitted equipment to be considered as part of the Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan
- Require the proponent to complete a feature and level survey of FSA buildings and to use this for all modelling related to sound proximity.

FSA submits until these further investigations are carried out to a level which demonstrates that there will be no unacceptable impacts on FSA, consent should not be granted.

FSA requests an opportunity to review and comment upon any additional acoustic and vibration assessment undertaken by the proponent.

### Privacy

FSA and the production companies which use the studio require privacy to control the release of information about their new films. FSA needs to maintain total control of their facility and prevent unauthorised photography, recording, filming or viewing of any activity at the studio.

The current Stadium proposal compromises this privacy during the construction phase, with construction access equipment being positioned such that there is a clear line of sight into the studio. Similarly, the proposed eastern façade of the proposed stadium has a mixture of clear glazing and open louvers.

FSA met with INSW on 11 July 2019 to raise these concerns. Agreement was reached where INSW will prepare section diagrams detailing sight lines into the FSA site and that INSW will amend the proposed development to provide additional screening within the stadium structure to prevent occupants of the stadium being able to see into the FSA site.

It is essential that these additional screening matters be introduced into the Stage 2 DA to protect the significant confidentiality associated with FSA's activities. FSA has yet to see the additional sight line information or the proposed screening measures which have been offered by INSW. FSA reserves its right to make further submissions in relation to privacy if the measures proposed by INSW are inadequate.

### Access

The current EIS management plan has identified the Paddington Lane access points as one of the main points for the delivery of materials and work force entry for the new stadium.

This access point is also used by FSA in its operations in accordance with the 1996 Master Plan DA and use of this access point for construction of the Stadium has the potential for FSA to be disrupted due to the construction activities.

FSA requires vehicular access to Paddington Lane, and the proposed Stadium construction activities cannot prevent or impede the use of this access point into the FSA site. FSA requests that the proponent prepare a construction traffic plan of management, in consultation with FSA, and that any consent include conditions requiring that FSA's access to Paddington Lane be maintained throughout construction.





## Conditions of Consent

In the event that a further acoustic and vibration assessment is undertaken by the proponent, and demonstrates that the Stadium redevelopment will not have an adverse impact on FSA, it will be essential in order to protect FSA's position, that any consent which is granted to the Stage 2 DA contain stringent conditions of development consent.

Any such consent should contain the following specific requirements:

- ***Treatment of the eastern elevation of the stadium to prevent a clear line of sight to the FSA Stages from any location within the completed Stadium.***
- ***Provision of screening to prevent unauthorised vision into FSA's property from any part of the new stadium site during construction.***
- Preservation of current FSA access arrangements and rights to both Paddington Lane and Driver Ave.
- Nomination of specific equipment which is permitted to be used during construction (being the equipment which has been modelled for acoustic and vibration impacts).
- An obligation to comply with the noise and vibration management plan, and an obligation to stop work if noise levels are exceeded.
- An obligation for the proponent to conduct continuous noise monitoring at receivers that adequately represent FSA's location and the minimal level of noise disturbance required by FSA, given its status as very sensitive to noise as per the ICNG.
- An obligation for the proponent to consult with FSA to coordinate construction activity with filming times on any given day, so that noisy construction activity is avoided for sensitive times of the day.

FSA welcomes the opportunity to discuss our concerns with the Department of Planning Industry and Environment, and requests an opportunity to review and comment on any supplementary information provided by the proponent in relation to the Stage 2 DA before it is determined.

Yours Sincerely,



John Hughes  
Head of Fox Studios Australia

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Appendix 1 - Acoustic Dynamics - Acoustic Opinion dated 12 July 2019

Appendix 2 - 1190405-Fifield-Harwin-Joint-Media-Release-Major-Marvel-feature

Appendix 3 - NSW Government Press Release 15 July 2019 – Star Wars comes to Sydney as ILM commits to permanent studio

## Appendix 1 - Acoustic Dynamics - Acoustic Opinion dated 12 July 2019



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Project 4658  
12 July 2019

**Fox Studios Australia**  
**C/o- Cornu Australia**  
Attention: Mr Stephen Rowe  
PO Box 1084  
RANDWICK NSW 2031

Dear Stephen

**FOX STUDIOS MOORE PARK – SYDNEY FOOTBALL STADIUM REDEVELOPMENT**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY LETTER – ACOUSTIC OPINION**

## **1 BACKGROUND AND PROJECT CONCERNS**

1. Acoustic Dynamics is engaged by Cornu Australia on behalf of Fox Studios Australia to conduct a technical review of the project Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (NVIA) for the Sydney Football Stadium (SFS) redevelopment.
2. The review has been undertaken with reference to the following:
  - Arup's NVIA acoustic report "Stage 2 SSDA – Noise and Vibration Assessment" reference no. AC04-v4 dated 31 May 2019.
3. Acoustic Dynamics advises that Fox Studios Australia is concerned about the potential for adverse acoustic impacts to the noise-sensitive buildings located on site during construction works.

## **2 GENERAL COMMENTS & ACOUSTIC OPINION**

4. Acoustic Dynamics' review of the NVIA, provides the following points and comments:
5. Within Section 2.3.1 Measurement of existing noise levels, Arup states:

*"Noise measurements are ideally carried out at the nearest or most potentially affected locations surrounding a development. An alternative, representative location should be established in the case of access restrictions or if a safe and secure location cannot be identified. Furthermore, representative locations may be established in the case of multiple receivers as it is usually impractical to carry out measurements at all locations surrounding a site."*

6. **Acoustic Dynamics is concerned that neither long- or short-term background noise monitoring was reported to be conducted at a location representative of Fox Studios Moore Park, which is arguably the most affected receiver for the duration of construction due to it being the receiver nearest the site. The noise environment of Fox Studios Moore Park is very quiet despite its proximity to Moore Park Road, and is particularly noise sensitive due to the activities performed within a number of buildings on-site.**

7. Within Section 3.1 Construction noise criteria – Arup makes reference to the Interim Construction Noise Guideline (ICNG) for recommended noise levels for airborne construction noise at sensitive land uses. Arup states:

*“The guideline provides construction management noise levels above which all ‘feasible and reasonable’ work practices should be applied to minimise construction noise impact. The ICNG works on the principle of a ‘screening’ criterion – if predicted or measured construction noise exceeds the ICNG levels then the construction activity must implement all ‘feasible and reasonable’ work practices to reduce noise levels.”*

8. Within Section 3.1 Construction noise criteria, Arup lists the ICNG recommended Construction Noise Management Levels within Table 9. This table lists Commercial premises external noise management noise levels to be an  $L_{Aeq}(15 \text{ min})$  of 70 dBA.

9. **Acoustic Dynamics notes that the full text of the ICNG (Section 14.1.3) in relation to Management Noise Levels for Commercial and Industrial premises states:**

***“Due to the broad range of sensitivities that commercial or industrial land can have to noise from construction, the process of defining management levels is separated into three categories. The external noise levels should be assessed at the most affected occupied point of the premises:***

- ***Industrial premises: external  $L_{Aeq}(15 \text{ min})$  75 dB(A)***
- ***Offices, retail outlets: external  $L_{Aeq}(15 \text{ min})$  70 dB(A)***
- ***Other businesses that may be very sensitive to noise, where the noise level is project specific as discussed below.***

***Examples of other noise-sensitive businesses are theatres and child care centres. The proponent should undertake a special investigation to determine suitable noise levels on a project-by-project basis; the recommended ‘maximum’ internal noise levels in AS 2107 Acoustics – Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors may assist in determining relevant noise levels (Standards Australia 2000).”***

10. Within Section 3.1.1 Project construction noise targets, Arup list the External Noise Management Level for Fox Studios within Table 11 as 70 dBL<sub>Aeq15minute</sub>.

11. **Acoustic Dynamics is concerned proper consideration has not been made for the activities performed within Fox Studios. As detailed within the ICNG extract in paragraph 9 above, special consideration should be given to highly noise sensitive**



activities such as the use of sound stages. AS 2107-2016 – Recommended design sound levels and reverberation times for building interiors lists the  $L_{Aeq,t}$  design sound level to be 20 to 25 dB for sound stages, and is the lowest recommended design sound level listed within the standard. Acoustic Dynamics conducted background ( $L_{A90}$ ) noise measurements within Sound Stage 5 at Fox Studios at around 15:30 on Thursday 11 July 2019 and determined the internal reverberant sound pressure level to be 25 dB(A). To ensure external construction activities do not impact upon activities conducted within the sound stages, it is essential that construction activities be inaudible within each sound stage. Given the sensitivity of the recordings being undertaken, a suitable criterion for assessment of such noise intrusion is likely to be background minus 15 dB.

12. Within Section 3.4.2 Activities, Table 19 lists the construction equipment proposed to be used during construction.

Within Section 3.4.3 Assessment methodology, Arup states:

*“Noise emission from construction activities associated with the SFSR have been assessed to criteria outlined in Section 3.1.*

*Noise emissions have been modelled using SoundPlan 8 in accordance with ISO9316-2 algorithms. The model included:*

*...*

- The location of equipment will be towards the northern half of the site, closer to the nearest receivers along Moore Park Road to represent worst case emissions”*

13. **Acoustic Dynamics is concerned that the scenario of noise generating activities performed using equipment listed within Table 19 along the eastern boundary of the SFS Redevelopment site, nearest Fox Studios, is a very real scenario that can occur, and is very likely to occur. Failure to assess the potential noise and vibration impacts associated with such a scenario does not conservatively assess operations and significantly favours the proponent (Infrastructure NSW), which would normally be expected for such a NVIA.**

14. Within Section 3.4.4 Noise prediction results, Arup states:

*“Graphical representations of construction noise emission are presented in Appendix D.”*

15. **Acoustic Dynamics notes that Appendix D shows that noise levels within close proximity of works (10 metres up to 100 metres) are greater than 80 dB.**

16. Within Section 3.4.4 Noise prediction results, Arup presents the predicted construction noise levels within Table 20. Arup’s states the predicted  $dB L_{Aeq(15 \text{ min})}$  construction noise levels for Fox Studios to be from 70 dB to 73 dB.

17. **As stated in paragraph 13 above, Acoustic Dynamics believes the modelling conducted by Arup does not consider the scenario where construction works take place along the eastern boundary of the redevelopment site. Therefore, it is Acoustic Dynamics’**

expectation that the noise emission levels from the SFS redevelopment site are likely to be much higher than the predicted noise levels presented by Arup in Table 20. Further, the exceedances predicted by Arup are in relation to criteria that Acoustic Dynamics believes is not befitting the noise sensitive nature of Fox Studios Moore Park, as stated within paragraph 11 above.

18. **Basic preliminary calculations and modelling indicate noise emission levels received at the nearest sensitive buildings within Fox Studios are likely to vastly exceed the levels predicted by Arup.**

19. Within Section 3.4.4 Noise prediction results, Arup states:

*“Some exceedances are predicted at C1 – Fox Studios, however these exceedances of up to 3 dB are not considered major. Although the ‘highly affected’ status only applies to residential receivers, the noise level at these receivers are not expected to exceed an  $L_{Aeq}$  (15 minute) of 75 dBA.”*

20. **As stated within paragraph 13 above, Acoustic Dynamics believes the scenario of noisy works being performed near the eastern boundary of the redevelopment site has not been assessed and presented. Should the works be performed along the boundary nearest Fox Studios Moore Park, noise emission levels would be much higher than the predicted noise emission levels presented within Section 3.4.4 Noise prediction levels, Table 20.**

21. Within Section 3.6 Construction vibration assessment, Arup states:

*“As no significant vibration intensive activities are proposed as part of the construction works, the likelihood of adverse impacts due to the proposed construction activities is low.”*

However, within Section 1.3 Overview of proposed development – Arup states:

*“The application represents the next phase in the SFS redevelopment. It seeks consent for the detailed design, construction and operation of the new stadium as ‘Stage 2’ of the redevelopment, which includes:*

*...*

*Vehicular and pedestrian access and circulation arrangements, including excavation to deliver a partial basement level for storage, internal loading and servicing at the playing pitch level;”*

Further, in Section 3.4.2 Activities, within Table 19 Arup predicts up to eight 40 tonne excavators being on site at a time, with two operating at once during any 15-minute period.

22. **Acoustic Dynamics believes that vibration intensive activities would be inclusive of excavation activities for building a structure as significant in size as a 45,000 seat football stadium (i.e. piling, rock-breaking for new basement level). Further, Acoustic Dynamics is concerned that vibration intensive works could potentially be performed**



**within 30 metres of buildings containing offices located within Fox Studios Moore Park, and within 120 metres of sound stages within Fox Studios Moore Park.**

23. Within Section 3.7 Construction noise mitigation measures, Arup present mitigation measures for managing noise emission from the redevelopment site. In Table 22, Arup recommend the following mitigation measures:

*“Noise and vibration management plan*

*A Construction Noise and Vibration management Plan shall be prepared prior to the issuing of a Construction Certificate. This will likely specify the actual plant to be used and will include updated estimates of the likely levels of noise and the scheduling of activities.”*

24. **Acoustic Dynamics agrees that a Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan should be prepared prior to construction commencing. However, as stated within paragraph 13 above, Acoustic Dynamics believes the criterion selected for construction noise emission to Fox Studios Moore Park proposed by Arup within Section 3.1.1, is not appropriate, nor stringent enough, given the extremely noise sensitive nature of many of the buildings within Fox Studios.**

25. Within Section 3.8 Construction vibration management, Arup present mitigation measures for managing vibration emission from the redevelopment site. In Table 23, Arup list minimum working distances for vibration intensive plant proposed to be used during construction. Table 23 is reproduced below:

*“Table 23: Recommended minimum working distances for vibration intensive plant*

<b>Plant Item</b>	<b>Rating / Description</b>	<b>Minimum working distance</b>	
		<b>Cosmetic damage (BS 7385)</b>	<b>Human response (OH&amp;E Vibration Guideline)</b>
Jackhammer	Hand held	1 m (nominal)	Avoid contact with structure

- More stringent conditions may apply to sensitive areas such as Fox Studios, based on sensitive equipment vibration criteria, and sensitive heritage structures.”*

Further, in Section 3.4.2 Activities, within Table 19 Arup predicts up to eight 40 tonne excavators being on site at a time, with two operating at once during any 15-minute period.

26. **As stated in paragraph 21 above, Acoustic Dynamics expects the construction of SFS would require vibration intensive activities such as piling and rock-breaking, potentially produced by the excavators listed within Section 3.4.2. Acoustic Dynamics questions why activities during construction involving excavators have not been considered for vibration emission.**

### 3 DISCUSSION

27. Due to the noise-sensitive nature of Fox Studios Moore Park, based upon our review of Arup's NVIA, Acoustic Dynamics recommends that further, more detailed investigations and assessment be undertaken as to the redevelopment of Sydney Football Stadium and its impact on Fox Studios.
28. The criteria selected by Arup is broad and has not taken into consideration the sensitivity of the business activities performed within Fox Studios.
29. The modelling of construction noise emission performed places noise sources towards the northern boundary of the redevelopment site, and away from affected receivers within Fox Studios, and does not consider the scenario where noisy works are performed near the eastern boundary of the redevelopment site that is nearest Fox Studios. Multiple scenarios should be modelled to provide accurate representation of how receivers at all boundaries would be affected.
30. Further, Acoustic Dynamics is sceptical that the construction of Sydney Football Stadium will not require the use of any ground-borne vibration inducing works, outside of the use of a hand held jackhammer. It is anticipated that large construction equipment would be required, including excavators, dozers and compacting equipment.
31. Should vibration generating equipment with potential to generate vibration at Fox Studios be used during construction, appropriate vibration monitoring should be undertaken to ensure structures and activities at Fox Studios are adequately protected.

### 4 CONCLUSION


32. Acoustic Dynamics has conducted a review of the project Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (NVIA) conducted by Arup.
33. Acoustic Dynamics has conducted an extensive review of available reference material, including technical papers, reference books, International and Australian Standards and relevant guidelines in relation to the potential impacts associated with the noise and vibration emission from the Sydney Football Stadium Redevelopment during construction. We are concerned with the accuracy of, and possible lack of conservatism contained within, the modelling and calculations of the construction noise and vibration. Further clarification and information should be sought from the proponent to ensure Fox Studios Moore Park is protected from extraneous noise and vibration, allowing the studio to conduct business without impedance.



34. We trust this meets with your immediate requirements. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards

**ACOUSTIC DYNAMICS**



JAMES COLLA


*Project Engineer, MDesSc (Audio & Acoustics), MAAS*

And



RICHARD HAYDON

*Principal, BE(Mech), MIEAust, MAAS, MASA, AAAC Executive*

Document	Revision	Date	Prepared	Checked	Approved
4658L001.JC.190712	0	12 July 2019	JC	RH	RH
4658L001.JC.190716	1	16 July 2019	JC	RH	

Appendix 2 - 1190405-Fifield-Harwin-Joint-Media-Release-Major-Marvel-feature





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FEDERAL MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS



THE HON DON HARWIN MLC

NEW SOUTH WALES MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

### Major Marvel feature set to film in Sydney

5 April 2019

The filming of a major new Marvel Studios movie will take place in NSW later this year thanks to a \$24 million injection from the Morrison Government.

It is an Untitled Marvel Studios Feature Film, with production to take place at Fox Studios Australia and other locations in Australia.

Minister for the Arts Mitch Fifield said the Government is ensuring Australia is a filming destination of choice for big budget productions and providing our local screen industry with a steady pipeline of work.

"We are very excited to have Marvel return to Australia following the incredible success of *Thor: Ragnarok*. Securing this latest production will bring over \$150 million of new international investment, create 4,700 new Australian jobs and use the services of around 1,200 local businesses," said Minister Fifield.

NSW Minister for the Arts Don Harwin said the production is expected to spend more than \$100 million in NSW and create up to 770 jobs for local screen professionals.

"This is a big-budget superhero film which the NSW Government has secured for Sydney through its *Made in NSW* fund and is the first Marvel Studios movie to be based in NSW," Mr Harwin said.

Minister Harwin said large-scale international productions provide an important boost to skills development as well as enhancing the profile of NSW as a place to do business.

"The film needs a large workforce of highly specialised special effects technicians and will also require sophisticated stunts, all of which NSW's incredibly skilled and experienced screen industry can deliver," said Mr Harwin.

"The film will also provide opportunities to develop and train a diverse workforce under the leadership of some of the world's best film professionals."

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Mr Harwin said NSW companies have previously provided special effects and post production work on seven Marvel Studios productions, boosting the state's reputation as a leading provider of these skilled services.

"Marvel Studios thanks the Australian and NSW Governments and is thrilled to be returning to Australia to work with the talented and highly skilled Australian crew, stunt performers and actors together with the thousands of small businesses across Australia that supply world class equipment, goods, facilities and services to large budget productions" said David Grant Vice President from Marvel Studios.

*Made in NSW*, announced in June 2018 is a \$10 million annual fund to support the attraction to NSW of significant international screen projects and major local TV drama production.

The Australian Government's Location Incentive increases the existing Location Offset rate from 16.5% to 30% for eligible large budget international productions that are successful through the application process, helping to attract foreign investment to Australian shores.



Appendix 3 - NSW Government Press Release 15 July 2019 – Star Wars comes to Sydney as ILM commits to permanent studio



# Star Wars comes to Sydney as ILM commits to permanent studio

Published 15th July, 2019

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More than 500 local jobs will be created when Disney-owned visual effects company Industrial Light & Magic (ILM) sets up a new studio in Sydney, establishing NSW as a global destination for post, digital and visual effects (PDV).

Premier Gladys Berejiklian joined Executive Creative Director and Head of ILM Rob Bredow and ILM Executive Luke Hetherington at Fox Studios Australia today to make the announcement.

Ms Berejiklian said ILM's decision to choose NSW as its Australian base is a big win for the State.

"ILM is responsible for the visual effects of more than 350 feature films, including Star Wars, Aladdin, Pirates of the Caribbean and The Avengers," Ms Berejiklian said.

"Having the world's leading visual effects company now agreeing to set up here permanently and commit to teaching invaluable skills to hundreds of people in NSW is a big coup for our State. This is only the third studio ILM has opened outside of North America.

"The digital skills taught by the best in the world will also benefit many other industries in NSW, including software development, robotics, engineering and defence."

Mr Bredow and Mr Hetherington confirmed that recruitment will begin immediately to complete post, digital and visual effects for Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker.

Mr Bredow said Sydney is an ideal location for ILM's fifth studio.

"There is abundant artistic and technical talent in the region which are both keys to ILM's culture of innovation. It's particularly exciting that the first film our new studio will contribute to will be Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker," Mr Bredow said.

The announcement follows the NSW Government's recent move to offer a 10 per cent tax incentive for PDV firms investing over \$500,000 in NSW. This is on top of Federal incentives, making NSW an even more attractive location for film production.

The new incentive brings NSW in line with global locations such as the US, UK and Canada, in addition to competing States.

As part of today's announcement, the NSW Government will also provide a \$6 million contribution which will be matched by ILM to establish training programs to build specialised PDV skills for local workers.

Minister for Jobs and Investment Stuart Ayres said PDV is a \$15 billion global industry and one that offers highly skilled jobs for NSW.

"We have a shortage of skilled PDV workers in NSW and today's announcement will help us attract crew who have relocated, as well as drive new teams that will go through ILM's exciting JEDI Academy program amongst other learning opportunities," Mr Ayres said.

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin welcomed ILM to Sydney and said he was excited about all of the opportunities that this will open up for NSW.

"Securing ILM's setup in Sydney will deliver an estimated \$333 million in post-production business in the first five years and an expected \$100 million each year after," Mr Harwin said. "We are thrilled to be the home of their new studio."

Mr Hetherington will see his role expand to include the new ILM studio, which will set up initially at Fox Studios Australia as the company researches options for their permanent Sydney studio.