

67 Epping Avenue
Eastwood
NSW 2122
16 July, 2020

Mr. Marcus Jennejohn
Senior Planning Officer, Key Sites Assessments
NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment

Dear Mr. Jennejohn

re: EIS for Parramatta Powerhouse

I would like to submit the following comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the "Powerhouse Parramatta":

- the project is now completely different from what was approved by Cabinet in 2018
- the total public "presentation" space is 12,600m², of which 6,000m² is climate-controlled, compared to 22,000m² of climate-controlled space in Ultimo - i.e. a reduction of climate-controlled space of over 70%
- There are no museum-specific exhibition spaces in the development. Every so-called "presentation space" would be available for commercial hire and designed to facilitate events and performances, functions and commercial hire. While these are valid activities in the right space, this multiple functionality would severely compromise the ostensible function of the building – a museum. There is no designated space for collection management, collection storage space or conservation lab. Collection management and exhibition installation would share spaces that are also designated for catering, dressing rooms, roadies and technical preparation. The back of house is grossly inadequate and poorly located. Corridors and lift vestibules are counted as back of house and staff offices.
- no way has been identified for moving precious large objects into the buildings
- there is no onsite storage space for any of the collection
- there is only one loading dock and no parking spaces whatsoever
- the Parramatta site is in a high-risk flood zone, which is inconsistent with relevant flood policies and plans and with Parramatta Council's DCP and LEP
- the project would entail tearing down historic buildings at Willow Grove and St George's Terraces

In summary, this proposal is flawed in many respects and would cause the destruction of both the wonderful heritage of the Ultimo Powerhouse and historic buildings at Parramatta, which would constitute serious mis-expenditure of taxpayers' funds. I therefore request that the entire project be critically reconsidered, employing genuine consultation with stakeholders and the community.

yours sincerely



Philip K Reichardt