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Our reference : 06/04614
Contact : Brian Leahy 9585 6469

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Mr Andrew Graham
event Project Management
PO Box 6180
FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

19 January 2007

Dear Mr Graham

Sandon Point – further investigation of Women's Area

As we discussed at our meeting in November 2006, DEC is committed to undertaking further investigation of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area to establish their cultural heritage values. DEC had advised the Aboriginal community in September 2006 that it would be further investigating those areas.

I note that the Minister for Planning granted approval for the Concept Plan for ARV's development at Sandon Point on 21 December 2006, including the requirement for a report on the Women's Area by an anthropologist.

As you discussed with Brian Leahy, there is an opportunity for DEC and ARV to cooperate in their respective investigations of the Women's Area. As a result, DEC has amended its consultant's brief for the investigation of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area to include the requirement to liaise with the consultant preparing the report for ARV. I have enclosed a copy of DEC's consultant's brief for your information.

DEC expects to engage its consultant to undertake further investigation of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area in the near future.

Please contact me directly on 9585 6514 if you require clarification of this letter

Yours sincerely



Teresa Gay
Director, Aboriginal Heritage Operations Branch
Cultural Heritage Division



– ABORIGINAL PLACE PROGRAM –

CONSULTANTS BRIEF FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF THE SANDON POINT ABORIGINAL PLACE

1. Introduction

The Department of Environment & Conservation (DEC) requires the services of a heritage professional experienced in Aboriginal cultural heritage to undertake further investigation of the Sandon Point area for finalising the Aboriginal place, including consultation with the Aboriginal community.

The purpose of the project is to investigate whether there are sufficient values in the areas known as the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area to recommend their addition to the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place. The time frame for this project is 8 weeks.

The consultant will be required to consult the Aboriginal community and identify areas with sufficient values for addition to the Aboriginal place.

2. Background

In 1974 the NPW Act was amended to include the status of Aboriginal Places. Prior to this, the Act had provided protection to all Aboriginal objects, that is, any deposit, object or material evidence [not being a handicraft made for sale] including Aboriginal ancestral remains relating to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal occupation of NSW. Section 84 of the Act states that:

The Minister may, by order published in the gazette, declare any place specified or described in the order, being a place that, in the opinion of the Minister, is or was of significance with respect to Aboriginal culture, to be an Aboriginal Place.

Sandon Point, near Thirroul, Wollongong has been nominated for Aboriginal Place declaration. In response to this nomination a draft DEC investigation report was completed in 2001. The report concluded that at that time there was insufficient information to recommend an Aboriginal place declaration to the Minister.

Subsequent to the above the Sandon Point area has undergone significant changes due to the establishment of a residential subdivision. A number of archaeological and other studies have been undertaken which have provided considerable additional information on the Aboriginal cultural values of the area.

The recent Waters Consultancy report¹ on the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place nomination identified the McCauleys Beach – Bulli Point area as being suitable for declaration. The report also recommended further investigation of the cultural heritage values of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area, including further consultation with the Aboriginal community.

In December 2006 DEC recommended to the Minister that the McCauleys Beach – Bulli Point area be declared an Aboriginal place. DEC also advised the Minister that it would be further investigating the cultural heritage values of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area.

Other documents relevant to the project include a report prepared for Stockland and Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV) on agency submissions to the companies' Concept Plan Application to

¹ Waters Consultancy, 2006. 'Sandon Point Aboriginal Place Assessment: Stage 1 Revised Final Report'. Report to Department of Environment and Conservation, dated 3 July 2006.

Consultant's Brief

the Department of Planning under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*².

3 Project Objectives

The objectives of this project are:

1. Establish, as far as particable, the Aboriginal cultural values of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area.
2. Determine if there are sufficient values in the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area to recommend one or both areas for addition to the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place.

4. Tasks to be undertaken by the consultant

The consultant will be required to undertake the following tasks:

1. Review existing information on the values of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area, in particular the following reports:
 - Waters Consultancy, 2006. 'Sandon Point Aboriginal Place Assessment: Stage 1 Revised Final Report'. Report to Department of Environment and Conservation, dated 3 July 2006.
 - Don Fox Planning & JBA Urban Planning Consultants 2006. 'Response to Agency Submissions – Concept Plan Application, Sandon Point'. Report by Don Fox Planning on behalf of Stockland Developments P/L and by JBA Urban Planning Consultants on behalf of Anglican Retirement Villages, dated October 2006.
 - Australian Archaeological Survey Consultants 2006. 'Sandon Point Col Area – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment'. Report to Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources [sic].
 - Wesson, Sue 2005. 'A History of Aboriginal People of the Illawarra 1770 to 1970'. NSW Department of Environment and Conservation.
 - Wesson, Sue 2005. 'Murni Dhungang Jirrar: Living in the Illawarra'. NSW Department of Environment and Conservation.
2. Interview Aboriginal people with knowledge of the uses and values of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area. Pay particular attention (as necessary) to seek out people not previously interviewed specifically Aboriginal women, and Report to DEC on outcomes of investigation and interviews.
3. Liaise (as necessary) with Anglican Retirement Villages' consultant preparing anthropological report for the Women's Area (see Minister for Planning's approval dated 21/12/06 under Part 3A of EP&A Act for ARV's Concept Plan), and include relevant information in report to DEC.

5. Reports and outputs

The consultant is required to provide:

1. A report on the Aboriginal cultural values of the Turpentine Forest and Women's Area, including an identification of areas with sufficient values for addition to the Aboriginal place.

² Don Fox Planning & JBA Urban Planning Consultants 2006. 'Response to Agency Submissions – Concept Plan Application, Sandon Point'. Report by Don Fox Planning on behalf of Stockland Developments P/L and by JBA Urban Planning Consultants on behalf of Anglican Retirement Villages, dated October 2006.

Consultants' Brief

6. Costing and Payments

A maximum budget of \$10,000 has been allocated to undertake the tasks. The budget is designed to cover all expenses including research costs, report production, travel, accommodation, payment of informants and materials. **Consultants are required to provide a budget breakdown.**

Consultant payments will be staged over the project to coincide with report deadlines, payments will be made on receipt of an invoice. The consultant will be paid in 2 stages:

1. Commencement payment of 50%;
2. On submission of finalised boundary and report: 50%

7. Time Frame

The time frame for this project is **eight weeks**, including interviews and preparation of report.

DEC will require a final report to be submitted by the end of February 2007

8. Consultant Selection Criteria

A cultural heritage specialist who possesses the following:

- exceptional communication skills, including experience in Aboriginal community consultation;
- experience in documenting Aboriginal cultural heritage (taped and untaped interviews), physical recording of sites and places;
- skills in library/archival research;
- superior report writing skills (including communicating in plain English);
- demonstrated ability to meet deadlines;
- a flexible approach and ability to take direction from project coordinator when appropriate;
- willingness to consult with DEC staff including district and Aboriginal heritage staff; and
- demonstrated experience in assessing cultural significance.

The consultant will be required to possess an ABN as well as personal workers compensation and public liability insurance.

If the consultant is a company, it will be required to provide an Australian Company Number (ACN).

11. Project coordinator and contract enquires

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