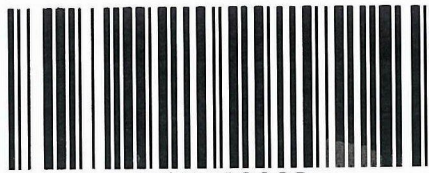


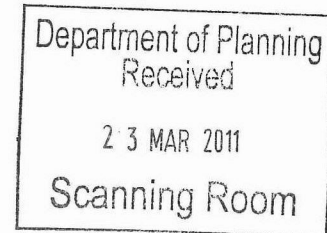


Planning



Contact: Katrina Stankowski
Phone: 02 98738569
Email: Katrina.Stankowski@planning.nsw.gov.au
Our ref: B312414
Your ref: MP10_0090
File: 11/04648

Anna Johnston
A/Team Leader Strategic Assessment
NSW Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Attention: Dorna Darab

Dear Ms Johnston

Subject: Heritage Branch comments on Exhibition of Minmi/Newcastle Link Road Part 3A Concept Plan (MP10-0090), State Significant Site Study and draft Voluntary Planning Agreement.

The Heritage Branch received your letter dated the 24th February requesting comment on whether the above Concept Plan, State Significant Site Study and draft Voluntary Planning Agreement.

Accordingly, the Heritage Branch has reviewed the Reports and their associated Appendices (including the ERM Heritage Impact Assessment dated November 2010) and finds that whilst heritage has generally been adequately assessed as part of the EA process, there are several issues which need addressing. These are:

1. The development of a Historic Heritage Management Plan should be including in the Applicants Statement of Commitments for the project. This is necessary for the appropriate on-going management of heritage during and after the project is active. This plan should be completed prior to works commencing. The Management Plan should include mitigation and recording strategies for unexpected archaeological finds during the project.
2. It should be made clear in the draft Statement of Commitments that the Interpretation Strategy should be undertaken using an experience interpretation consultant. This strategy should include detailed plans for development wide interpretation of built, archaeological, industrial, natural and Aboriginal heritage through a variety of mediums to better aid the community in understanding the history of Minmi and its general local.
3. Given the size and staged nature of the proposed archaeological program described in the Heritage Impact Assessment and in the draft Statement of Commitments, the Heritage Branch considers that the program Excavation Director should demonstrate that they meet the Heritage Council Excavation Director Criteria prior to works commencing. Additionally, the Archaeological Research Design should be approved by the Heritage Branch prior to the commencement of the archaeological program (as recommended in Section 10.3.2 of the ERM Heritage Impact Assessment).

4. A Report on the outcomes of the archaeological program should be lodged with the Heritage Branch and the relevant Local Council within 1 year of the end of the archaeological program. The requirement for this Report should be included in the draft Statement of Commitments.
5. There is no information regarding the long term storage and display of any archaeological relics uncovered as part of the archaeological program. Additional funding should be allocated for this as part of the Coal & Allied Allocation for the Minmi/Link Roads.

The Heritage Branch would be pleased to review any future reports which incorporate our comments. If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact Katrina Stankowski on 02 98738569.

Yours sincerely



16/03/2011

Vincent Sicari
Manger
Conservation Team
Heritage Branch
Department of Planning