Appendix I

Aboriginal heritage clearance letter
Date: 08-10-2013

Project Manager
Dane Hendry

Re: Preliminary assessment results Hartley Valley Safety Works based on Stage 1 of the Procedure for Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation and investigation (the procedure).

The project, as described in the Stage 1 assessment checklist, was assessed as being unlikely to have an impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage. The assessment is based on the following due diligence considerations: RMS staff: ACHO Jeff Charlton, Grad Engineer Cassandra Hill, Bathurst LALC Tina Petford and Coomber Consultants Tory Stenning

• The project is unlikely to harm known Aboriginal objects or places.
• The AHIMS search did indicate known Aboriginal objects or places in the study area.
• The study area does contain landscape features that indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects, based on the Office of Environment and Heritage’s Due diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal objects in NSW and the Roads and Maritime Services’ procedure.
• The Aboriginal cultural heritage potential of the study area appears to be severely reduced due to past disturbance.
• There is an absence of sandstone rock outcrops likely to contain Aboriginal art.

Your project may proceed in accordance with the environmental impact assessment process, as relevant, and all other relevant approvals.

If the scope of your project changes, you must contact me and your regional environmental staff to reassess any potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage.

If any potential Aboriginal objects (including skeletal remains) are discovered during the course of the project, all works in the vicinity of the find must cease. Follow the steps outlined in the Roads and Maritime Services’ Unexpected Archaeological Finds Procedure.

For further assistance in this matter and do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Charlton
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisor –Western Region