

Our ref: SSI 7127

Mr Jeffrey Gilham
Senior Project Manager
Technical & Project Services Division
Roads and Maritime Services
27 Argyle Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

Dear Mr Gilham

The Northern Road Upgrade (SSI 7127) – Determination that archaeological investigations are not construction

I refer to your correspondence dated 27 July 2018 seeking the Secretary's determination that archaeological investigations for The Northern Road Upgrade Stages 4 and 5 are 'not construction'. I note that although you have deemed these works as 'low impact' under sub-paragraph (k) of the definition of 'construction', the Secretary's determination is required because the works are within areas of endangered ecological communities (EECs) and are in proximity to threatened species. The Secretary must make this determination in consultation with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) as per sub-paragraph (i) of the definition of construction. I also note that the development, including impacts on EECs and threatened species, are approved under SSI 7127 and that a draft Construction Flora and Fauna Management Plan has been submitted to the Department.

Your request was accompanied by evidence of consultation with OEH, an Environmental Work Method Statement and a commitment to undertake the archaeological investigations in accordance with the salvage strategy. I note that you submitted the salvage strategy as part of the draft Construction Cultural Heritage Management Plan. The consultation with OEH highlighted that the proposed work would largely be limited to impacts on grassed areas with no trees expected to be removed. I note that OEH did not object to the proposal.

I have considered your request, including the consultation outcomes and the supporting information. On this basis, I determine that the proposed archaeological investigations are not construction.


Please note that the archaeological investigations must be undertaken in accordance with the:

- Environmental Work Method Statement
- draft Construction Flora and Fauna Management Plan, and
- draft Construction Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

If you have any further queries or require clarification on this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Senior Planning Officer, on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

 15-8-18
Stacy Warren
Director Infrastructure Management
As delegate of the Secretary