



OUT16/35599

Mr Andy Nixey  
Key Sites Assessments  
NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Andy.nixey@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Nixey

**Barangaroo Public Domain: Hickson Park, Watermans Quay, Barangaroo Avenue,  
Wulugul Walk, Watermans Cove And Public Pier (SSD 7944)  
Request for Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements**

I refer to your email of 9 September 2016 to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter. Comment has been sought from relevant divisions of DPI. Views were also sought from NSW Department of Industry - Lands that are now a division of the broader Department and no longer within NSW DPI. Any further referrals to DPI can be sent by email to [landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

The Department has reviewed the request and accompanying draft SEARs and provides the following recommendations:

- In the SEARs under 'consultation' amend so that consultation with Department of Primary Industries only be required *where relevant* to avoid unnecessary requests.
- Section 7. Water Quality and Contamination should be amended as follows:
  - Undertake an assessment of the potential impacts on water quality of Darling Harbour. Relevant consideration should be given to the National Water Quality Management Strategy: Australian Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC/ARMCANZ), the ANZECC Guideline and Water Quality Objectives in NSW (OEH) and Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Water Pollutants in NSW (OEH).
  - Assess the impacts of the proposal on surface and groundwater quality and hydrology.
  - **Assessment of any volumetric water licensing requirements (including those for ongoing water take following completion of the project).**
  - **The identification of an adequate and secure water supply for the life of the project. Confirmation that water can be sourced from an appropriately authorised and reliable supply. This is to include an assessment of the current market depth where water entitlement is required to be purchased.**
  - **A detailed and consolidated site water balance.**
  - The assessment must include details of proposed erosion and sediment controls (during construction), the proposed stormwater management system (during operations) and management and mitigation measures for the

- containment of pollutants (e.g. fuel and sewage) and prevention of potential water quality impacts during construction and operation.
- Assess the potential for the development to intercept groundwater **including annual volumes of groundwater proposed to be taken by the activity (including through inflow and seepage) from each groundwater source as defined by the relevant water sharing plan.**
  - Assess the geotechnical and contamination issues (including Acid Sulphate Soils) associated with the construction of the development including the contamination status of the sediments to be disturbed, the impacts associated with disturbance of sediment, and the management and mitigation measures to be employed during marine works.
  - Include a suitable water quality monitoring program **including full technical details and data of any surface and groundwater modelling.**
  - An assessment of potential cumulative impacts on water sources and mitigation measures to manage the cumulative impacts.
- Section 10. Seawall Construction/Modification should be amended as follows:
    - The EIS should address whether modifications to the estuarine foreshore comply with the recommendations of *Environmentally Friendly Seawalls - A Guide to Improving the Environmental Value of Seawalls and Seawall-lined Foreshores in Estuaries (DECC, 2009)*.
    - **The EIS should detail plans for any proposed environmentally friendly seawall works or aquatic eco-engineering works to improve biodiversity.**
    - **Where structures are proposed to be built over water they should have regard to the *Policy & Guidelines for fish habitat conservation and management (2013)*, and identify construction methods and techniques that minimise the impact on aquatic biodiversity.**

Yours sincerely



Mitchell Isaacs  
**Director, Planning Policy & Assessment Advice**  
26 September 2016