



23 November 2020

Patrick Quinlan
Client Director/Associate
KDC
Suite 2B, 125 Bull Street,
NEWCASTLE WEST NSW 2302

Dear Patrick,

Preliminary Aboriginal archaeological advice for Lot 151 of DP755475, 211 Vine Lane, Boggabri, NSW for Providence Asset Group

This letter aims to provide Providence Asset Group preliminary Aboriginal archaeological advice for Lot 151 of DP755475, 211 Vine Lane, Boggabri, NSW. This letter summarises the preliminary results from the site inspection and includes recommendations for further management of Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

Site Inspection Summary

A site inspection was undertaken at the proposed Boggabri Solar Farm location on 27 October 2020 with two sites officers from Red Chief LALC, Dave Horton and Cindy Foley. Landforms of high sensitivity, i.e. the creek line running E-W within the property and partially along the project area's southern boundary were surveyed in full. Numerous east-west transects traversing the lease area were also undertaken. Visibility within the paddocks was generally zero to very low due to overgrowth by pasture vegetation species, with areas of exposure totalling less than 2% inhibiting detection of Aboriginal objects.

Within the paddocks, the rare areas with exposures (with approx. 80 - 100% visibility) were targeted for survey. These exposures were primarily along eroded tracks, fencelines, and where vegetation was absent due to shading from large trees. No new sites were recorded in the few exposures in the field, and areas with particularly long grass were avoided due to multiple snake sightings prior to and during the foot survey. The northern portion of the lease area on the Springfield property was also surveyed (south of the Springfield driveway) and no new sites were recorded due to a lack of visibility and exposures (0-5% visibility; <2% exposures). The survey area appeared to have been partially overgrown with pasture species, and contained large sandstone fragments and angular blocks which appear to have been moved to the fenceline of the paddock by machine.

One new Aboriginal site recording has been undertaken for the project area to archival standards, and will be submitted to AHIMS this week. We have consolidated the previous four artefact scatters along the creekline and banks into one single site to be managed within a potential archaeological deposit (PAD). An updated map of the site "Boggabri Creek 001" has been attached, showing the extent of the PAD and the four main concentrations of artefacts within the PAD and scatter. The artefact scatter contained a diversity of tool types and materials. The creekline runs partially along the eastern part of the southern proposed works boundary. The highest artefact density was at the confluence between the two creeklines. The second creekline is fully within the project lease area, comprising the entire southern boundary. It was too overgrown to be assessed. The presence of the new site and the richness of the artefact assemblage suggests that unexpected finds during works in the central paddock areas is likely. There is high potential for background scatter (Aboriginal objects of lower densities) and Aboriginal objects in highly modified contexts or in situ that can't be seen due to poor ground surface visibility.

Recommendations

Following on from the site inspection, we recommend the following:

- J Design of works to avoid the southern creekline and the new site "Boggabri Creek 001" if possible;
- J Completion of an AHIMS site recording form for Boggabri Creek 001 and any associated deposits and submission to the AHIMS database to comply with Section 91 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, in consultation with the Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council; and
- J Consultation with the Red Chief Local Aboriginal Land Council on the outcomes of this preliminary advice and formal comment on cultural heritage values and the results of the site inspection; and
- J Commencing preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Archaeological Assessment (ACHA/AA) to assist with AHIP application.
 - o this will cover unexpected finds and additional Aboriginal objects found in the future during community collection when ground disturbing works occur and also may need to consider potential for archaeological testing/salvage if triggered.

We are happy to discuss any aspect of this summary and look forward to planning ahead with you for the next stage of this project.

Yours sincerely



Dr Mary-Jean Sutton

Principal Archaeologist/Company Director





Figure 1
Map Showing Locatic of Site
"Boggabri Creekline 001"

Legend

- Major Towns & Cities
- Boggabri HSA
- HSA Acces Gates
- Artefact Concentrations Within Scatter
- Extent of Artefact Concentrations
- Creek PAD
- Creek Line

- Proposed Works
- Priority DD Assessment Area
 - Proposed Grid Connection
 - Proposed Lease Area
 - Proposed Site Access



Source: NSW Spatial Services, AHIMS, KDC
Projection: GDA94
Document Set ID: 1831768
Version: 1. Version Date: 05/01/2021
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