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General Manager
Blue Mountains City Council
Locked Bag 1005
KATOOMBA NSW 2780

By email: heritagereview2018@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

PLANNING PROPOSAL POST STAGE 1 EXHIBITION- HERITAGE REVIEW 2018

I refer to your letter dated 12 March 2018 regarding the abovementioned planning proposal to amend the 'Schedule 5 Environmental heritage' of the Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan (BMLEP) 2015 as per the recommendations of heritage studies commissioned by Blue Mountains City Council since 2005.

From the information provided it is noted that approximately 380 properties are affected by the Review. It is understood that the Review proposes various changes to the Schedule 5, including adding new heritage items, deleting existing items, and making modifications to existing items. The amendments will also include corresponding mapping changes in the BMLEP 2015.

Of the total 286 modifications proposed to the existing heritage items, 30 relate to the items also listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR). It is noted that the majority of the proposed modifications in relation to the SHR items are to align the description and mapping of the items within the Schedule 5 of the BMLEP with the description and mapping of the items on the SHR. The names of the two items, *Lapstone Hill Railway Tunnel (and WWII Mustard Gas Storage Site)* at Glenbrook and *Gatekeepers Cottage* at Valley Heights have not been aligned with their listing in SHR.

The Council has advised that the name *Lapstone Hill Railway Tunnel (and WWII Mustard Gas Storage Site)* was reinstated following public submissions in support of the name instead of the item's name in the SHR. Similarly, the description of the *Gatekeepers Cottage* at Valley Heights hasn't been aligned with the item's State heritage listing to maintain consistency in descriptions of all the local listings for gatekeepers cottages within the local government area.

It is noted that the mapping of the item Cox's Road and Early Deviations – Linden (LD008) is proposed to be aligned with the item's SHR mapping. The SHR curtilage of the item is smaller than the existing mapping of the item in the BMLEP 2015, which includes a section of the Cox's Road and the vacant undeveloped land to the west and south and four residential lots to the east. The vacant undeveloped land provides views to the west and preserves an 'open' bushland setting for the road, which is evocative of the early 19th century

travellers' experience. Therefore, it is recommended that the mapping of the item includes the vacant undeveloped land to the west and south.

No objection is raised to the other modifications. Similarly, no objection is raised to the listing and delisting of heritage items provided they are supported by a robust and up-to-date heritage assessment. It is recommended that the Blue Mountains City Council should be satisfied that the proposed names, descriptions and mapping of the local heritage items identify the items accurately.

If you have any questions regarding the above matter please contact Vibha Upadhyay, Heritage Programs Officer, Statewide Programs at the Heritage Division, Office of the Environment and Heritage by telephone on 02 98738587 or email at vibha.upadhyay@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Rochelle Johnston
Manager Statewide Programs
Heritage Division
Office of Environment & Heritage

As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW

20 April 2018