

Our initial review has noted that whilst the Asset Geotechnical report recommends top-down method (see attachment) the method provided by the developer is in fact bottom-up.

Further to this, the report also recommends the use contiguous or semi-contiguous piles where as the report from Structural Design Solutions proposes soldiers piles.

We have not been provided with any information or justification as to why the recommended approach has not been used.

We also note that it is proposed to have rock anchors within Deane Street. As Council is away RailCorp has its Ashfield to Strathfield high voltage cable located within this road reserve and as such is concerned that the rock anchors could puncture this infrastructure. As this infrastructure falls within the definition of rail corridor under the Infrastructure SEPP we will not endorse such a measure. At this stage, subject to clearance from our engineers, we may require that there be no rock anchors within 4m in depth from the top of Dean Street down. The developer will need to develop a revised solution based on this, or preferably no rock anchors within Deane Street.

Finally, under the Infrastructure SEPP RailCorp has 21 days to provide its concurrence. As we requested additional information within 5 days of receiving the DA from Council, which triggers the stopping of the clock for the assessment of this DA, RailCorp now has 16 days remaining of the 21 day statutory period. As such RailCorp concurrence would be due on 25 March 2011, which would be after the deadline of the 16th in order to make the next JRRP meeting.

Given that we would need to see justification or additional information from the developer as to why the variance to the recommendation described above, I think it would be unlikely that concurrence would be issued before the expiration of the statutory period which is applicable to our concurrence provisions.

Regards

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