

**Newcastle Office**

Ground Floor, 241 Denison Street, Broadmeadow, NSW Australia 2292

PO Box 428, Hamilton, NSW Australia 2303

T +61 2 4940 4200 F +61 2 4961 6794 E newcastle@rpsgroup.com.au W rpsgroup.com.au

Our Ref: PR118415:LV:MD
Date: 24 July 2014

Attn: Wade Morris
SNL Building Constructions Pty Ltd
PO Box 4222
Edgeworth NSW 2285

Via: Email

Dear Wade

RE: ADDENDUM ECOLOGICAL ADVICE FOR PROPOSED MULTIPLE DWELLING HOUSING AND MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT, WHITEBRIDGE NSW

RPS has been engaged by SNL Building Constructions Pty Ltd to provide addendum ecological advice arising from master plan redesign, and as such should be read in conjunction with the existing Ecological Advice (November 2013) submitted to inform the application. The assessment is for a proposed residential and mixed use development including community and torrens title subdivision over; Lots 1, 2 and 3 DP 436503; Lot 4 DP 667365; Lots 1, 2 and 3 DP 349377; Lots 2 and 3 DP 26039, 142-146 Dudley Road, and 2-4 Kopa Street, Whitebridge.

A revised master plan for the proposal has been prepared by Smith & Tzannes Architecture (14_026 DA-A-010) which remains generally consistent with the previous proposal in terms of footprint and ecological outcomes. The notable difference between iterations of the proposal being the provision of a meandering footpath along the southern boundary in response to matters raised during public notification and technical referral of the application by Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC). Revegetation of this area will also now incorporate water quality swales as part of the public roads and landscape design. The footpath links pedestrian access through the site from Kopa Street and the Fernleigh Track entrance to Dudley Road. The footpath has been incorporated into a revised landscape master plan by Mansfield Urban. The landscape plan maintains the objective of reintroduction of native vegetation in the environmental zone, whilst responding to the bushfire prone land zoning over the site, hence balancing the provision of ecological benefit whilst not establishing a bushfire threat.

In our opinion the revised master plan outcomes are consistent with previous advice prepared by RPS (2013) which concluded in summary:

- The site does not contain significant habitat attributes and no threatened species, populations or ecological communities listed under the TSC Act or EPBC Act known from the locality were observed on site during multiple site inspections.
- The revised Landscape Master Plan will improve ecological function of the faunal movement corridor identified under the LMCC Native Vegetation and Corridors Mapping.
- The development will not have a significant impact on threatened species, populations or ecological communities listed under the TSC Act or EPBC Act known from the locality.

We trust this information is sufficient for your purposes, however should you require any further details or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Yours sincerely

RPS



Matt Doherty
Technical Director