

10 April 2015  
Ernest Dupere  
Benedict Industries Pty Ltd  
PO Box 431, Frenchs Forest  
NSW 1640

Re: Proposed Georges Cove Marina - Aboriginal heritage

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Dear Ernest,

## 1 Overview

This letter provides updated information regarding the Aboriginal archaeological assessment for the proposed Georges Cove Marina, 146 Newbridge Road, Moorebank (the project) prepared by Mary Dallas Consulting (Dallas 2004) (the 2004 assessment). It has been prepared on behalf of Benedict Industries Pty Ltd (Benedict).

The 2004 assessment was part of an environmental impact statement (EIS) accompanying a previous application to Liverpool City Council for development consent for the project in 2012. This application was granted to Tanlane Pty Ltd by the Sydney West Joint Region Planning Panel (JRPP) as the Consent Authority on 22 August 2014 with support from Liverpool City Council. The validity of the Consent was challenged by the proposal's sole objector, Moorebank Recycling Pty Ltd in the NSW Land and Environment Court. The court ruled in favour of the objector, declaring that the Consent was invalid and ruled that Tanlane should commission a preliminary contamination assessment, reapply for a consent and supply the preliminary contamination assessment report to the JRPP as part of the application.

EMGA Mitchell McLennan Pty Limited (EMM) has been engaged by Benedict to review the 2004 Aboriginal archaeological assessment in accordance with *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW 2010) (due diligence guidelines) which aims to:

- identify whether or not Aboriginal objects are, or are likely to be, present in an area; and
- determine whether the proposed activities are likely to harm Aboriginal objects.

EMM reviewed the 2004 assessment report and completed an updated search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) register to confirm that Aboriginal sites have not been recorded, and are not likely to exist, in the project area. No further field survey was required because the project area is the same as that has not changed since the surveyed for the 2004 archaeological assessment.

## 2 Previous investigation

The 2004 assessment involved background environmental and archaeological research and a field survey of the entire project area accompanied by a site officer from the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council (GLALC). No previously recorded Aboriginal sites were identified from background research and none were identified during the survey. The survey identified that over 90% of the project area had been subject to

past land use disturbance inclusive of deep sand mining, top soil removal and land fill. The trees inspected along the Georges River foreshore did not show signs of Aboriginal cultural modification. No areas of archaeological potential were identified. Dallas (2004) concluded that no further Aboriginal archaeological assessment was warranted.

### 3 AHIMS search

A search of the AHIMS register was completed on 8 April 2015. The search covered a 1 km by 2 km area centred on the project area and included the project area and surrounding land. No Aboriginal objects were identified in the AHIMS search area (Attachment A).

### 4 Conclusion and recommendations

The 2004 assessment and the updated AHIMS search fulfil the requirements of the due diligence guidelines because:

- the project is on disturbed land;
- no Aboriginal sites have been recorded in the project area; and
- an archaeological survey of the entire project area did not identify any Aboriginal objects or areas of archaeological potential.

As such, no further investigation is required for the project area. Although no Aboriginal objects are expected to occur in the project area, EMM recommends the following procedures be implemented to avoid harming any unknown Aboriginal objects:

1. If during the course of construction Benedict or any subcontractors become aware of any previously unidentified Aboriginal object(s), all work likely to affect the object(s) should cease immediately and the GLALC and an archaeologist be contacted for further advice.
2. If human suspected human skeletal remains are identified all work likely to affect the remains should cease immediately. The find should be reported to the police (as required for all human remains discoveries) and the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) contacted for advice on the identification of the skeletal material as Aboriginal and management of the material. If the remains are Aboriginal ancestral remains, the GLALC should be contacted and consultative arrangements will be made to discuss ongoing care of the remains.
3. Benedict should provide heritage awareness training as part of the induction program for all on site personnel. The induction should include examples of Aboriginal objects so that unexpected finds can be identified during project construction.

### 5 Closing

I trust that this letter provides information relevant to the Aboriginal archaeological aspects of the project. If you wish to discuss any of points raised in this letter or have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on my details provided below.

Yours sincerely,



Ryan Desic

Archaeologist

[rdesic@emgamm.com](mailto:rdesic@emgamm.com)

T +61 (0)2 9493 9500 | D +61 (0)2 9493 9541 | F +61(0)2 9493 9599

## References

Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW) 2010, *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales*.

Mary Dallas Consulting Archaeologists (Dallas) 2004, *Benedict Sand and Gravel 146 Newbridge Road, Moorebank, Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment*, prepared for Benedict Industries Pty Ltd.

## Appendix A

### AHIMS results

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# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

## Extensive search - Site list report

Purchase Order/Reference : J14149

Client Service ID : 168503

<u>SiteID</u>	<u>SiteName</u> <u>Contact</u>	<u>Datum</u> <u>Recorders</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Site Status</u>	<u>SiteFeatures</u> <u>Permits</u>	<u>SiteTypes</u>	<u>Reports</u>
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There are no sites found for given search criteria.

Report generated by AHIMS Web Service on 08/04/2015 for Ryan Desic for the following area at Datum :GDA, Zone : 56, Eastings : 311448 - 312448, Northings : 6242439 - 6244439 with a Buffer of 0 meters. Additional Info : Due diligence. Number of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects found is 0

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