



Decision Statement

Background

Ravenswood School for Girls (Ravenswood), is the proponent for minor alterations to two existing buildings, known as Building H and Building J, at 681 Pacific Highway, Gordon.

The proposed activity has been classified as a Class 1 – Review of Environmental Factors (REF) 'minor school development' in accordance with the *NSW Code of Practice for Part 5 Activities for registered non-government schools* (the Code).

DM Planning has prepared a REF to assess the potential impacts of the proposal in accordance with Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), clause 171 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation) and the Code.

In order for the activity to proceed, the school must make a determination of the REF in accordance with Part 5 of the EP&A Act.

Description of the proposed activity

The proposed activity which involves minor alterations to two buildings, comprises of:

1. Building H – Green wall to northern facade
2. Building H – New door to classroom and changes to external ramp
3. Building H – Enlargement of IT staff room and new entry to classroom GLA H.3.47
4. Building J – Science labs – reconfigure rooms and create a new entry

Consideration of Environmental Impacts

Environmental impacts generated by the proposal will be minimal for the following reasons:

- There is no change to the existing building footprints or envelopes;
- The proposal is consistent with the existing school use;
- The proposal is compatible with the existing surrounding land uses; and
- The proposal will not generate an increase in staff or student numbers or vehicle movements to the site.

The main issues discussed in the REF relate to:

- Legislative planning requirements of Commonwealth, State and local planning policies and legislation, specifically Chapter 3 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy – Transport and Infrastructure 2021 (the T&I SEPP)*; and
- Key environmental considerations.

The REF addresses the requirements of Part 5 of the *EP&A Act* by considering, to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment from the proposed activity. The REF also considers factors prescribed under clause 228 of the EP&A Regulation.

Conclusion

The REF concludes that the proposal will not affect threatened species, populations, ecological communities or their habitats.

The REF also finds that the proposed activity will not impact on matters of National Environmental Significance or Commonwealth land, and therefore does not require a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The key conclusions of the environmental impacts detailed in the REF are accepted for the following reasons:

- The REF has been prepared by persons appropriately qualified and trained to consider and assess the impacts of the proposal;
- The REF provides a true and fair review of the proposal concerning its potential effects on the environment; and
- The REF is comprehensive and takes into account, to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment as a result of the proposal.

Determination

I, Emmett Hope, am authorised by Ravenswood School for Girls, to determine the proposal for minor works to the Building H and Building J, and have not conducted the prior assessment of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF).

I have reviewed and examined the REF prepared by DM Planning for the four (4) minor works projects to Building H and Building J, at 681 Pacific Highway, Gordon, in accordance with Part 5 of the EP&A Act.

Having taken into consideration the assessment and evaluation of the proposal outlined in the REF, I determine that it is not likely to significantly affect the environment, and is not likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations, ecological communities or their habitats. I determine that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Species Impact Statement (SIS) are not required.

The proposed activity may now proceed subject to the following conditions:

1. Compliance with any relevant provisions of the National Construction Code (NCC).
2. Implementation and compliance with the conditions stipulated in the REF.

I can confirm that this Decision Statement and the REF for the proposal will be made available on the school's website prior to the commencement of the proposed activity.



Emmett Hope

Director of Operational Services

5 December 2022