



21/12/2022

Mr Bob Rimac
Senior Project Manager - Transport for NSW
PO Box 609
PYRMONT NSW 2009
By Email:

Dear Bob

RE: TISEPP CONSULTATION - COAL LOADER WHARF MAKE SAFE AND RETRIEVAL WORK

Thank you for the letter to the General Manager dated 28 November 2022 regarding the above, responding to Council's submission on the previous TISEPP notification. Council remains firmly of the opinion that a best-practice heritage outcome, commensurate with the wharf's great heritage significance, needs to be at the forefront of TfNSW's planning and actions. A sensitive, heritage-principles-based, adaptive-reuse scheme needs to be developed in consultation with Council and the community and committed to in the first instance. Until a scheme has been agreed, further removal of significant fabric needs to be avoided.

As with any project, particularly projects involving existing structures or heritage elements, where all information cannot be known at the outset, appropriate contingencies can be built into the project budgeting / forecasts. In this case also, there is substantial existing-condition information to already to hand. This can be supplemented by additional testing in carefully selected areas, aimed at minimal disturbance to heritage fabric (for example where already clear of overhead timbers), and the results extrapolated to inform the detailed design and construction documentation.

The usual disclaimers and provisos can be applied covering the uncertainties and unknowns that exist at the master planning / concept stage. However, what is clearly known, is that the Coal Loader jetty is a unique, rare part of Australia's maritime heritage. Any action to diminish that significance needs to be avoided. Methods applicable to best practice heritage management, including stabilisation of in situ fabric need to be utilised in the first instance, with removal of only as a last resort. Containment & retrieval is the preferred method in respect to floating timbers.

Council's response to the Review of Environmental Factors on exhibition will be forwarded in due course. Council looks forward to working with TfNSW on the adaptive reuse scheme for the wharf.

Yours faithfully

Robert Emerson
DIRECTOR OPEN SPACE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES