

Archaeology TARDIS

cultural heritage advisors

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Project Nos. 1556.1200, 1556.1300,
1924.100 & 1984.100

13 March 2014

Mr Jim Nikolareas
Managing Director
Monarc Environmental Pty Ltd
Suite 3
259 Whitehorse Road
Balwyn VIC 3103

Dear Mr Jim Nikolareas,

Re: Victorian Northern Interconnect Expansion Taungurung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (TCAC) RAP Area Cultural Heritage Status Report

I am writing to you following your verbal request on 21 February 2014 for an update on the status of the current cultural heritage investigations in relation to the Victorian Northern Interconnect Expansion project for APA GasNet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd (APA) for their upcoming EES Referral. This update only covers the TCAC RAP area for projects conducted by Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd (AAT). This update is current as of Thursday 13 March 2014.

AAT is currently preparing for you Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs) for two sections in the TCAC RAP area for the VNIE project. Historic heritage values are also being managed in each of these two sections. The status of each of these is addressed below.

Back Mountain Road, Seymour to Clarks Road, Longwood (Project Number 1924.100)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage values will be managed by CHMP 12788 which is currently being prepared. A desktop and assessment has been completed and is referenced as follows:

Andrea Murphy and Dr Tom Rymer 2014. Victorian Northern Interconnect Expansion (Mangalore to Longwood Gas Pipeline). Draft Desktop and Standard Assessment for CHMP 12788 prepared by Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd for APA GasNet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd.

One Aboriginal cultural heritage place was found at Four Mile Creek consisting of a single silcrete artefact. Areas of sensitivity for Aboriginal cultural heritage were identified at waterways including Hughes Creek, Four Mile Creek, Muddy Waterhole Creek, Burnt Creek, Reedy Creek, Charles Creek, Womangal Creek, Eight Mile Creek and two unnamed drainage lines. Currently, a complex assessment is being conducted in these areas of sensitivity as well as a control sample on the plain which is considered not sensitive. All Aboriginal cultural heritage values will be managed by the CHMP process.

Historic Heritage

A survey for historic heritage was conducted at the same time as the standard assessment for CHMP 12788. No historic heritage was found. Currently, a complex assessment (subsurface testing) is being conducted as part of CHMP 12788. To date, no historic heritage values have been found.

Clarks Road, Longwood to Creighton Siding Road, Euroa (Project Number 1984.100)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage values will be managed by CHMP 12787. A desktop, standard and complex assessment has been completed. The draft report referenced below is currently being reviewed by APA:

Andrea Murphy and Dr Tom Rymer 2014. Victorian Northern Interconnect Expansion (Longwood to Euroa Gas Pipeline). Draft CHMP 12787 prepared by Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd for APA Gasnet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd.

One Aboriginal cultural heritage place (VAHR 7924-0447) was found at Pranjip Creek comprising six stone artefacts. It will be managed appropriately in the CHMP in consultation with TCAC. No other Aboriginal cultural heritage values were identified. Once final consultation with TCAC has been completed, CHMP 12787 will be submitted to the TCAC for evaluation and approval.

Historic Heritage

No historic heritage was identified during the assessment. A historic heritage letter was provided to Heritage Victoria on 4 March 2014 detailing the results of the assessment and the lack of historic heritage.

Summary

All Aboriginal cultural heritage and historic heritage values for the above projects are being managed appropriately. All cultural heritage values will be managed in compliance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the *Heritage Act 1995*.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact our office on (03) 9676 9009.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Tom Rymer
Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd