

Project Nos. 1983.000 & 1923.000

21 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 Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC) 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 YYNAC RAP area for projects conducted by Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd (AAT). This update is current as of Friday 21st March 2014.

AAT is currently preparing for you Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs) for two sections in the YYNAC 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.

Creighton Siding Road, Longwood to Alan McDarmots Road, Violet Town (Project Number 1983.000)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage values will be managed by CHMP 12777 which is currently being prepared. The CHMP is in preparation and is referenced as follows:

Andrea Murphy and Andrew Morris 2014. Victorian Northern Interconnect Expansion (Longwood to Violet Town Gas Pipeline). CHMP 12777 prepared by Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd for APA GasNet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd. (in prep.)

Areas of sensitivity for Aboriginal cultural heritage were identified at waterways including Castle Creek, Seven Creek, Branch Creek, Faithful Creek, Riggs Creek, and several minor or prior waterways. The fieldwork component for the complex assessment of this CHMP has recently been completed and one Aboriginal cultural heritage place was identified (VAHR# TBA). This place was a Low Density Artefact Distribution located on the south bank of Branch Creek and approximately 500m southwest of Branch Creek, consisting of three silcrete artefacts and one quartz artefact. This place will be managed appropriately in the CHMP in consultation with YYNAC. No other

Aboriginal cultural heritage values were identified. Once final consultation with YYNAC has been completed, CHMP 12777 will be submitted to the YYNAC for evaluation and approval.

Historic Heritage

A survey for historic heritage was conducted at the same time as the standard assessment for CHMP 12777. No historic heritage was found. A complex assessment (subsurface testing) has been recently conducted as part of CHMP 12777. To date, no historic heritage values have been found.

Alan McDarmots Road, Violet Town to Glenrowan-Boyle Road, Glenrowan (Project Number 1984.000)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal cultural heritage values will be managed by CHMP 12778. A desktop, standard and complex assessment has been completed. The CHMP is in preparation and is referenced as follows:

Andrea Murphy and Andrew Morris 2014. Victorian Northern Interconnect Expansion (Violet Town to Glenrowan Gas Pipeline). CHMP 12778 prepared by Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd for APA Gasnet Australia (Operations) Pty Ltd. (in prep.)

Areas of sensitivity for Aboriginal cultural heritage were identified at elevated land adjacent to Lake Mokoan and at waterways including Eleven Mile Creek, Seven Mile Creek, Winton Creek, Kennedys Creek, Broken River, Baddaginnie Creek, Woolpress Creek, Folly Creek, Turnip Creek, Stony Creek, Swamp Creek, Two Mile Creek, One Mile Creek and Honeysuckle Creek, and several minor or prior waterways. The fieldwork component for the complex assessment of this CHMP has recently been completed and approximately 18 Aboriginal stone artefacts were identified (VAHR# TBA). These artefacts are yet to be analysed, however will comprise one or several Low Density Artefact Distributions.

One previously Registered Aboriginal Scarred Tree (VAHR8125-0010) was relocated and sits inside the activity area boundary. It will be recommended that the activity avoid impacting this place.

These places will be managed appropriately in the CHMP in consultation with YYNAC. No other Aboriginal cultural heritage values were identified. Once final consultation with YYNAC has been completed, CHMP 12778 will be submitted to the YYNAC for evaluation and approval.

Historic Heritage

A survey for historic heritage was conducted at the same time as the standard assessment for CHMP 12778. No historic heritage was found. A complex assessment (subsurface testing) has been recently conducted as part of CHMP 12778. To date, no historic heritage values have been found.

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,



Andrew Morris
Archaeology At Tardis Pty Ltd