Department of Planning and Environment

Our ref: DOC23/556948
Your ref: SSD-47320208

Shaun Williams
Planning Group
Department of Planning and Environment
4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

6 July 2023

Subject: Request for advice on EIS for Project Echidna Data Centre Eastern Creek (SSD-47320208)

Dear Mr Williams

I refer the e-mail of 7 June 2023 requesting input from Environment and Heritage Group (EHG) within the Biodiversity and Conservation Division on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project Echidna Data Centre Eastern Creek (SSD-47320208) proposal.

EHG has reviewed the EIS dated 7 October 2022 and the supporting appendices and provides the following comments in relation to the flood risk assessment in the Stormwater and Flooding (SF) Report (Appendix Q of the EIS) prepared by Arup Australia Pty Ltd.

Section 4.4 of the SF Report depicts the existing site drainage infrastructure and discusses the existing Council's trunk drainage which conveys the 1% AEP external catchments flows. Section 5.2.2 of the SF Report indicates that the internal access road within the site would be utilised to convey the overland flow in events larger than the 1% AEP. The discussion also indicates the flood planning level for the site is initially set at 0.5m above the trunk drainage inlet structure but will be confirmed based on further design and detailed assessment.

EHG advises the intended design and detailed assessment should assess the overland flow for events larger than the 1% AEP up to and including the probable maximum event. This is considered prudent to determine whether these extreme events present flood risk to the users of the development and to identify appropriate emergency management measures if required.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Richard Bonner, Senior Conservation Planning Officer on 9995 6917 or richard.bonner@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Susan Harrison
Senior Team Leader Planning
Greater Sydney Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation