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TO Sam Mangione
Alkina Holdings Pty Ltd

CC

FROM Jaclyn Ennis-John

EMAIL jennis-john@golder.com.au

WORKS APPROVAL APPLICATION – DESKTOP ASSESSMENT SUPPORTING HERITAGE INFORMATION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This technical memorandum presents a desktop summary of publicly available heritage information for the Great Southern Landfill Site. The Great Southern Landfill Site, outside York, Western Australia, was previously referred to as Allawuna Farm Landfill (AFL), and a Works Approval Application (WAA) was prepared by SUEZ and granted by the Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (now the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, DWER) on 17 March 2016; it was subsequently withdrawn by SUEZ. The WAA by SUEZ is publicly available on the DWER website.

2.0 PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION

2.1 WAA data

The supporting works approval application provided the following information related to aboriginal heritage:

A review of the Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System (AHIS) in February 2015 found no registered Aboriginal Sites or Heritage Places within the proposed AFL site.

The nearest registered Aboriginal Site is the Helena River (Site ID 3758) located approximately > 700 m to the east.

In 2012, SITA contacted three Elders of the Local Aboriginal Community and met to discuss the development as part of the community and stakeholder consultation program. The Elders indicated that the location of the landfill and the surrounding development are not a place of significance for the local Aboriginal people. The historical path of Aboriginal people travelling from the Midland area to the York area is closer to the major water courses and away from the development site.

2.2 Review of AHIS

A review of the AHIS in June 2016 found no registered Aboriginal Sites or Heritage Places within the proposed Great Southern Landfill site. The nearest registered Aboriginal Site is still the Helena River (Site ID 3758) located approximately 700 m to the east.

The search also provided the following guidance and findings:

- The search is within or adjacent to the Ballardong People Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA).

On 8 June 2015, six identical Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) were executed across the South West by the Western Australian Government and, respectively, the Yued, Whadjuk People, Gnaala Karla Booja, Ballardong People, South West Boojarah #2 and Wagyl Kaip & Southern Noongar groups, and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC).

The ILUAs bind the parties (including 'the State', which encompasses all State Government Departments and certain State Government agencies) to enter into a Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement (NSHA) when conducting Aboriginal Heritage Surveys in the ILUA areas, unless they have an existing heritage agreement. It is also intended that other State agencies and instrumentalities enter into the NSHA when conducting Aboriginal Heritage Surveys in the ILUA areas. It is recommended a NSHA is entered into, and an 'Activity Notice' issued under the NSHA, if there is a risk that an activity will 'impact' (i.e. by excavating, damaging, destroying or altering in any way) an Aboriginal heritage site. The Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines, which are referenced by the NSHA, provide guidance on how to assess the potential risk to Aboriginal heritage.

Further advice can also be sought from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) formerly the Department of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA) at info@dplh.wa.gov.au.

3.0 CONCLUSION

There has been no change to the record of known heritage sites in the AHIS since the 2015 WAA application. The desktop assessment of aboriginal heritage originally conducted for the area is therefore still current and still applicable to the proposed project.

GOLDER ASSOCIATES PTY LTD



Jaclyn Ennis-John
Senior Environmental Scientist

JEJ/BM/hn



Betsy Merry
Project Manager