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16 January 2018

OUR REF: 7782

Newcastle City Council PO Box 489 NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear Sir or Madam,

## RE: PROPOSED BIORESOURCES FACILITY UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE, CALLAGHAN (LOT 1 DP1188100)

We write to you in relation to the proposed development of a Bioresources Facility within the University of Newcastle Callaghan Campus (Lot 1 DP1188100).

The Bioresources Facility will be located within in the current Life Sciences and Medical Sciences precinct of the university campus. The proposed facility will be a cross-faculty collaboration between Research & Innovation Division, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Health & Medicine and be a foundational piece of research infrastructure for the University. It is a key requirement to support the University of Newcastle (UON) current biomedical research activities and to cater for future capability in response to emerging trends in biomedical research.

The proposed development involves construction and operation of the Bioresrouces Facility. The building will have a floor area of approximately 3,500m<sup>2</sup> and will be approximately 9.5 metres high. The building has been designed with consideration to site topography and the location within the University.

The project capital investment value exceeds \$30 million therefore the proposal is State significant development (SSD) (Application No: 8937) under Clause 15 of Schedule 1 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 and Part 4, Division 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared in relation to the proposal and will be submitted with a development application pursuant to Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. The purpose of the EIS is to assess the proposed development in the light of all heads of consideration and to identify mitigation measures to minimise the environmental impact of the proposal.



Further information on the proposal can be found on the Department of Planning and Environment's website: <a href="http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view\_job&job\_id=8937">http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view\_job&job\_id=8937</a>

In accordance with the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued by the Department of Planning and Environment we request your feedback on the proposal. Please provide comments within 21 days of this letter (7 February 2018). If you require further information please contact me on 4942 5441 or email (emma.m@dewittconsulting.com.au).

 $Kind\ regards,$ 

de Witt Consulting

Emma Mason TOWN PLANNER Mark Maund TOWN PLANNER