

21 September 2021

The Honourable Rob Stokes MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Stokes,

Amendments to SEPP Educational Establishments & Child Care Facilities 2017

We work with many small and large non-government schools across NSW and have a significant level of experience in the State Environmental Planning Policy (Educational Establishments and Child Care Facilities) 2017 (ESEPP).

As you are aware, in November 2020, the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment invited public submissions about a raft of potential changes to the ESEPP and other related Environmental Planning Instruments. In December 2020, together with Johnson Winter & Slattery lawyers, we made a comprehensive submission about the proposed changes. Since that time, we have followed up on various occasions through several channels in the hope of understanding the timing of the changes that are to be adopted.

Many of the schools that we work with have projects that would greatly benefit from the changes in the ESEPP and the related Environmental Planning Instruments that were foreshadowed in November 2020. However, naturally, uncertainty about the timing of the changes causes schools to hesitate, preferring instead to await the adoption of the revised planning instruments before committing to their projects.

While the NSW Government rightly has higher priorities at present than dealing with changes to the ESEPP, it would be very helpful to non-government schools across NSW if the changes were announced soon, or at the least to be made aware of the probable timing of the changes.

I take this opportunity to thank you and your parliamentary colleagues for taking such great care of NSW in these difficult times.

I look forward to your response and to being able to share this with the schools that we work with.

Yours sincerely,
epm Projects Pty Ltd



Andrew Graham
CEO & Managing Director



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