

16 August 2012

Demetrius Condos  
John Colet School  
6 Wyatt Avenue  
Belrose NSW 2085

Dear Demetrius,

**Re: comments regarding the potential impact on the threatened *Grevillea caylei* plants and the endangered Duffy Forest ecological community at the John Colet School site in relation to amendments to a development application, (DA) that applies to the Admin Building, (DA2011/1370, dated 22 February 2012).**

I have prepared this letter in compliance with Part 31, Division 2 of the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules. In particular, I have read the Expert Witness Code of Conduct contained within Schedule 7 of the Rules and agree to be bound by it.

It is understood that the amendments to the Admin Building DA, (i.e. DA2011/1370, dated 22 February 2012), include:

- \* Extending the concrete slab
- \* Re-orienting the roof structure so that it slopes the other way
- \* A new awning over the lift

In relation to the above-outlined matter, I can certify that on 9 November 2011 I reviewed the existing bushland site conditions at the John Colet School and found that the plants of the threatened *Grevillea caylei* and the designated areas of the endangered Duffy Forest ecological community are well protected from cars and school student activities, due to the presence of an already-installed flame retardant colourbond fence barrier along the northern boundary of the bushland area, also by an existing 1.6 metre high mesh fence along the western boundary of the site and a low log railing fence along the south-western parts of the site. The locations of these fences are outlined in the enclosed site map. It is clearly apparent that both the areas containing the threatened *Grevillea caylei* plants and the designated areas of the endangered Duffy Forest ecological community are demarked as a "no play/no go" zones.

I can also certify that the *Grevillea caylei* plants were growing well and that there were plants present at various age classes from seedlings to plants at about 1.5 metres in height, within this fenced-off bushland area. The areas of and the endangered Duffy Forest ecological community were also growing well. John Colet School engaged Ecohort's team of experienced and appropriately trained bush regenerators to undertake a weeding sweep throughout the entire designated bushland areas and appropriate thinning of the bushfire asset protection zone parts of the site on 2 and 9 November 2011. This bush regeneration and asset protection zone management work was in addition to other bush

regeneration works that had been undertaken at the site by appropriately experienced groups of parents supervising weeding working bees within these areas.

It is also considered appropriate by Ecohort Pty Ltd that the students at the school are allowed to continue to incidentally visit the bushland areas under teacher supervision as a learning process of the locally occurring Duffys Forest endangered ecological community and the threatened *Grevillea caylei* plant species. To be able to facilitate this educational access it would be advantageous for there to be limited, ongoing supervised access to the native bushland areas at the school and to maintain existing fencing arrangements.

I can also certify that the bushland at the site has been protected and appears to have been managed as per the requirements of the Bushland Management Plan, which was prepared by Ecohort Pty Ltd in June 2007. This is again supported by the fact that past weeding and asset protection zone maintenance works have been successfully implemented at the relevant bushland parts of the site by both Ecohort appropriately trained and qualified bush regeneration contractor staff and site by appropriately experienced groups of parents supervising weeding working bees within these areas.

It is Ecohort Pty Ltd's opinion that there will be no impact on the quality or health of the threatened *Grevillea caylei* plants or the Duffys Forest endangered ecological community that occur at the John Colet site, as a result of the amendments to the DA that applies to the Admin Building, (DA2011/1370, dated 22 February 2012).

Ecohort Pty Ltd are also of the opinion that a new Bushland Management Plan would not be required for the designated parts of the site, due to the fact that the current Bushland Management Plan for the site dated June 2007 is being appropriately implemented on an ongoing basis by John Colet School.

Do not hesitate to contact me if any additional information is required, relating to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Freimanis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edgar Freimanis,  
Director, Ecohort Pty Ltd.