



Mr Peter Duncan  
Acting Chair  
Independent Planning Commission  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Our ref: SSD-9772

Dear Mr Duncan

**Construction of a new school for Kindergarten to Year 12 (Santa Sophia College)**  
**SSD-9772**

The Department has completed its assessment of the merits of the application for the construction of a new school, Santa Sophia College.

In accordance with the Minister's delegation dated 14 September 2011, the application is referred to the Independent Planning Commission (the Commission) for determination, as 25 or more objections were received in public submissions.

The Department exhibited the application and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from 30 May 2019 until 26 June 2019. During this period, the Department received a total of 82 submissions, including seven submissions from public authorities, one objection from a community group and 74 individual public submissions including 69 objections.

In assessing the merits of the project, the Department considered the environmental, social and economic impacts of the project, submissions on the EIS, relevant environmental planning instruments, the suitability of the site for the project, and the public interest, in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Based on its assessment, the Department believes that the project is approvable subject to a range of conditions.

I have attached a copy of the Department's assessment report and all other relevant documents for the Commission's consideration.

For any further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact Karen Harragon, Director, Social Infrastructure Assessments, on 02 9274 6358.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray  
Group Deputy Secretary  
Planning and Assessment

05/03/2020