



12 July 2018

Professor Mary O’Kane  
Chair, Independent Planning Commission  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

**Sent by email to [ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au)**

Dear Professor O’Kane:

**Re: Crown Cemetery Development Varroville – A085/18**

I write to you on behalf of the Scenic Hills Association, and as the owner (with my husband) of state-listed Varro Ville Homestead (SHR #00737) located on a battle-axe block *in the middle of* the Varroville cemetery development proposed by the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (CMCT). We have long opposed the proposed development.

The development land is in the Scenic Hills Environmental Protection Area, with most of the cemetery land awaiting state heritage listing. Our Association was formed in 2007 (incorporated in 2016) by landowners who support the preservation of the Hills’ rural and environmental heritage. Our committee includes those who are most affected by this development, including representatives of the Carmelite Monasteries.

We note that on 18 May 2018, the CMCT referred its development application (DA) to the Planning Minister for a decision under section 4.33(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on the basis that the consent authority (the Sydney Western City Planning Panel (SWCPP)) had not made the decision within 70 days of lodgement, and the Minister delegated his function in relation to this matter to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) on 4 June 2018.

While we welcome the Minister’s action in removing himself from this decision, we are concerned that his delegation has had the effect of terminating the previous process at a critical point, potentially relieving the applicant and the Heritage Minister of providing further information requested by the SWCPP, and terminating our rights to have our views heard at a public hearing (had it progressed that far). We are also concerned about how our submissions, provided under a different process, will be now be handled.

We wish to enquire if the IPC has received the documentation listed under 4.33(2) of the EP&A Act, and if so, to seek a meeting with the IPC to discuss our concerns. I can be contacted by email or on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Jacqui Kirkby  
Convenor

Scenic Hills Association Inc.

[REDACTED] 2566

Email: [REDACTED]

[www.scenic hills.org.au](http://www.scenic hills.org.au)