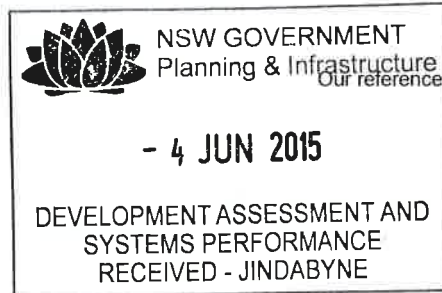




Mr Daniel James  
Team Leader  
Alpine Resorts Team  
Department of Planning and Environment  
PO Box 36  
Jindabyne NSW 2627



DOC15/132550  
EF15/3642

Dear Daniel

**DA Referral – Installation of telecommunications tower, Cat Shed, Thredbo.  
DA - 6968**

I refer to the above development application (DA) forwarded to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) for provision of comments in accordance with *State Environmental Planning Policy (Kosciuszko National Park - Alpine Resorts) 2007*.

OEH has reviewed the Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) and appendices and I provide the following comments to help you assess the DA.

**Fauna and Flora**

The proposed trenching routes have not been adequately identified. An accurate assessment on the impact to flora and fauna is unable to be conducted. The SEE states that trenching will be limited to "disturbed areas of land" however an acceptable route map is not provided. Of concern is the proximity of the proposed works to native vegetation "islands".

The following comments are provided should the development be approved by consent.

Sod replacement and rehabilitation

Sod replacement should be undertaken where trenching is proposed. Rehabilitation works must be conducted according to "Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Resort Areas of Kosciuszko National Park" (DECC 2007). Rehabilitation areas must be adequately mulched and maintained until an erosion resistant ground condition is achieved.

Safety of fauna

Any excavations left open overnight must be left such that any fauna entering these excavations are able to escape easily.

Sediment and erosion control

All straw bales used for mulching or sediment and erosion control must be certified as weed free.

Machinery cleaning

Machinery must be cleaned prior to entering the park, be regularly maintained and manoeuvred to prevent the spread of exotic vegetation.

**Aboriginal Archaeology**

The SEE did not address the potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage values adequately. Due Diligence for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments has not been demonstrated. However the development area is a previously disturbed site and there are no known Aboriginal sites within or close to the development area. Should any Aboriginal objects be uncovered during construction, any works impacting the objects must cease immediately and the NPWS contacted for assessment of the site.

**Leasing**

The proposal is permissible under the head lease held by Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd. I note the email correspondence from the proponent to Mark Brown (Department of Planning and Environment) on 18 May 2015 and support the proposed sub-lease having built in requirements for co-location.

Advice on leasing components is being sought and further leasing comments may be applicable.

**Compliance with *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974***

Concerns are raised over the potential visual impact of the proposed structure. The proposed height of the tower is well above the existing infrastructure and ski lift towers and would be visible from the village and the Alpine Way.

If you have any enquires regarding this matter, please contact the Assessments Coordinator, Rebecca Owen on 02 6450 5543.

Yours sincerely



**Sue Elks**  
**Team Leader**  
**Environmental Planning and Assessment**  
3 June 2015