



Ms Sue Higginson MLC
Chair
Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No.7 – Planning and Environment
Parliament House
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Higginson

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the evidence I provided to Portfolio Committee No.7 – Planning and Environment during the Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage hearing for Budget Estimates on 2 November 2023.

At the hearing you asked me a question about how many applications the Department of Planning and Environment has received regarding Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value. I advised the following: “In relation to the question of Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value, I can confirm that we have one application with the Department. We previously received four draft applications and we have requested further information and waiting for those to be resubmitted.” (page 95 of the uncorrected transcript).

I wish to clarify my evidence to confirm the Environment and Heritage Group within the Department of Planning and Environment has received four nominations for Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value. Further information has been requested in relation to three of those nominations.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely

Brendan Bruce
Deputy Secretary, Biodiversity, Conservation and Science
Department of Planning and Environment

Date: 29 November 2023