



2 December 2016

Department of Planning and Environment
Attn: Director – Key Sites Assessments
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Via electronic upload

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Modification to Switching Station / Star City Casino MP08_0098 (MOD 14)

The Sydney Business Chamber is a division of the NSW Business Chamber and represents Sydney's leading corporations, advocating for Sydney to be a competitive and sustainable global city. The Chamber strives to identify, develop and promote the major issues that contribute to economic activity and growth in Australia's only global city, Sydney. This is achieved on behalf of business by representation and collaboration with governments at the local, state and federal level.

The Chamber supports the proposed modification to The Star Sydney to upgrade its facilities.

The Star Sydney is one of Sydney's premier entertainment destinations. As NSW's only casino, The Star Sydney provides a key offering to Sydney's visitor economy. The Star Sydney's integrated resort remains a consistently popular attraction for locals, tourists and business visitors by offering hotel, restaurant, theatre, events and gaming facilities. PwC's recently released Economic Impact Assessment shows that The Star Sydney makes a significant economic contribution to the NSW economy and creates thousands of jobs.¹

Given the important contribution it makes to Sydney's visitor economy, it is important that The Star Sydney offers a state-of-the-art experience so that it remains competitive, particularly within the first-class international visitor segment. The Star Sydney must also ensure it satisfies its commercial obligations to the NSW Government to maintain the site to a first class international standard for casinos and casino complexes.

¹ PwC (2016) *Economic Impact Assessment of The Star: Final Report*
<https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com/public/ff87a6838961edae1690f42673fdb561/Th e%20Star%20Modification%202014 %20Economic%20Impact%20Assessment.pdf>

The Star Sydney is proposing modifications to upgrade its food and beverage areas, infrastructure, access spaces, and gaming floor. The Chamber believes these proposed modifications ensure that The Star Sydney will be modernised and expanded to meet the needs of its customers and maintain The Star Sydney to a first class international standard.

The modifications also support the broader redevelopment and refreshment of the Darling Harbour precinct. This precinct is the western gateway to the CBD and forms part of Sydney's cultural ribbon. The Star Sydney adds to the diverse offerings within the city and contributes to Sydney's status as a vibrant global city. PwC's modelling shows that the additional planned investments will add a further \$377 million to the NSW economy from 2016 to 2030 as well create an extra 500 jobs every year over the same period.²

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. Please contact Larissa Cassidy at Larissa.Cassidy@nswbc.com.au or on 9458 7359 if you would like to discuss this submission further.

Yours sincerely



Luke Aitken
Senior Manager, Policy

² Ibid