

24 May 2016

Ms Tara Cameron
Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc
PO Box 29
WENTWORTH Falls NSW 2782

Email: bmcs@bluemountains.org.au

Dear Ms Cameron,

Subject: Vegetation Clearing at 18-20 Old Bathurst Road WOODFORD NSW 2778

Thank you for your letter of 2 May 2016 reporting the clearing of vegetation at the above mentioned property.

I also refer to your representations to the Mayor, Blue Mountains City Council, Councillor Mark Greenhill, and Ward 2 Councillors Hollywood, Bennett and Van der Kley, in relation to this matter. The Councillors have requested that I respond to you on their behalf.

I can advise that Council officers had become aware of this matter and investigations on the alleged clearing were well underway. The investigations confirmed that clearing of vegetation and other works had been undertaken on the property without the necessary development consent(s) having been obtained.

The owner of the property was directed to cease any further clearing and install appropriate sediment and erosion control measures to stabilise the site to minimise soil erosion from the disturbed areas. A subsequent follow up inspection by Council officers confirmed the installation of the sediment controls.

Council is currently considering a range of regulatory options in response to unauthorised works.

Additionally, an appropriate course of action to rehabilitate the site, having regard to its environmental attributes, is being pursued with the owner of the property.

I also note your advice that the Conservation Society will be referring the matter to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage for investigation under the Native Vegetation Act.

Should you require any further assistance or clarification, I can be contacted on (02) 4780 5000.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodney Bles".

Rodney Bles
Principal Environmental Health and Building Surveyor
Development Monitoring Team