



**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

PO Box 552, Katoomba NSW 2780

Phone: 4784 7300 Fax: 4782 6199

gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au

Our reference : DOC13/29217 AC 1305

Our contact : Jacqueline Reid ph: (02) 4784 7326

Ms Sue Morrison  
Community Campaigner  
Hands Off our LEPs  
Blue Mountains Conservation Society  
PO Box 29  
Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

Dear Ms Morrison,

**Re: Standard Instrument Local Environment Plans**

As you know, the Advisory Committee for the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (Advisory Committee) is jointly appointed by the New South Wales and Commonwealth Ministers for the Environment. The Advisory Committee provides advice on the protection, management and presentation of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWH), which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2000 for its outstanding natural values.

Thank you for your letter of 10 May 2013, the various other documents you have provided and your time in sharing community concerns at the recent function with the Advisory Committee. Meetings like this allow the Advisory Committee to become well briefed about the significant issues that affect the World Heritage Area. We are thereby in a better position to provide relevant and useful advice to the GBMWH Management Committee and Commonwealth and State Ministers.

The NSW Government had prepared a draft World Heritage SEPP which is on hold until following the current review of NSW planning provisions. In the absence of a strong World Heritage SEPP, the Advisory Committee considers that the proposed Standard Instrument for Local Environmental Plans does not provide appropriate protection and conservation of World Heritage values. We note further that, as you have observed, the imposition of the Standard Instrument on the City of Blue mountains would remove a series of well-resolved provisions to protect and enhance heritage values which have been developed over many years. These provisions are particularly focused on the special circumstance and issues relating to the presence of the City of Blue Mountains through the centre of Blue Mountains National Park and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

The concerns that you have expressed and the information you have provided are helpful to and are supported by the Advisory Committee. We have therefore written to the Management Committee for the GBMWH (comprising both Commonwealth and State senior officials) drawing attention to the potential impact on World Heritage values of the LEP review process and the potential impacts of the Standard Instrument on the GBMWH. We have also written directly to the NSW Minister for Environment and Heritage as the Minister who is directly responsible for maintaining the World Heritage values of GBMWH.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Richard Mackay, AM  
Chair

Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee  
18/06/2013



Office of  
Environment & Heritage  
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

