

**Undertaking given under Section 9.5 of the
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act
1979 (NSW) by:**

**Complete Construction Engineering Pty Ltd
ACN 143 485 367**

Undertaking given under Section 9.5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* by Complete Construction Engineering Pty Ltd

1. Persons giving the Undertaking

- 1.1 This undertaking is given to the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment (**Secretary**) by Complete Construction Engineering Pty Limited (**CCE**) for the purposes of section 9.5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* (**EP&A Act**).
- 1.2 CCE is an engineering company with its principal place of business located at 9 Penguin Parade, Hinchinbrook NSW 2168

2. Background

Background to the Development

- 2.1 On 4 September 2018, the Land and Environment Court determined proceedings 2017/225161 by the grant of consent to Development Application DA No. DA/140/2016 lodged by Al Faisal College Ltd ACN 082 621 092 (**Al Faisal**) for development at 65-69 Croydon Street, Lakemba NSW 2195 (the **Premises**) for the following:
- (1) Alterations and additions to the existing building at 69 Croydon Street, demolition of two existing dwellings and associated structures at 65 and 67 Croydon Street, change of use to an Educational Establishment (Primary School) and associated site works and fencing.
- (collectively, the **Approved Development**).
- 2.2 Canterbury-Bankstown Council (**Council**) alleges that certain works as constructed at the Premises are not consistent with the Approved Development and do not otherwise have development consent. Namely, Council alleges that a basement floor level has been excavated and constructed (the **Unauthorised Works**).
- 2.3 Al Faisal was the principal in the construction of the school and entered into a contract with Decode Sydney Pty Ltd ACN 604 521 173 (**Decode**) for the carrying out of development at the Premises. CCE provided architectural, engineering and administrative services for Al Faisal and acted as a representative for Al Faisal. Condition 15 of the Approved Development provided that the development was to be carried out in accordance with architectural plans dated 14 May 2018 prepared by Millenium Design Consultants. These plans included a Ground Floor Plan (DA-02E) however there was no basement plan. Neither the architectural plans or any other provision of the Approved Development authorised the excavation and construction of a basement. The Unauthorised Works were not authorised pursuant to the Construction Certificates issued by Bernie Cohen & Associates Pty Ltd Trading as Essential Certifiers on 12 September 2019, 28 October 2019 or 11 September 2020 in relation to the Approved Development. The Unauthorised Works were not authorised pursuant to another environmental planning instrument.

The Contraventions

- 2.4 Council alleged that between September 2020 and April 2021:
- (1) Instructions were provided by CCE to Decode which resulted in Decode's

subcontractor, ADN Investments Pty Ltd ACN 107 361 160 (ADN) excavating the basement, and in Decode itself constructing the basement after its excavation by ADN; and

- (2) The Consent did not authorise excavation or construction of a basement floor level and required the development to be carried out in accordance with approved plans that did not show a basement floor level.

(Conduct).

2.5 The Conduct on the part of CCE contravened the EP&A Act as:

- (1) The aiding, abetting, counselling, or procuring of the Unauthorised Works by CCE gives rise to an offence pursuant to section 9.50(3A)(a) of the EP&A Act.

2.6 The Conduct amounted to offences under the EP&A Act as described above, and is referred to as the **Contraventions**.

2.7 CCE acknowledges that undertaking development without first obtaining consent constitutes a contravention of section 4.2 or section 9.50 of the EP&A Act or both.

2.8 CCE offered this Undertaking to Council.

Response to Contraventions

2.9 CCE acknowledges the community impacts which arise from breaches of the EP&A Act, including harm to the regulatory scheme which establishes an orderly method for the obtaining of planning approvals prior to carrying out development. Development carried out without consent does not undergo prior impacts assessment which would allow for avoidance or mitigation of those impacts. Unauthorised excavation creates potential for additional impacts relating to vibration, groundwater, traffic, and waste, which never underwent prior impacts assessment.

3. Commencement of this Undertaking

3.1 This Undertaking comes into effect when both:

- (1) This Undertaking is executed by CCE; and
- (2) This Undertaking so executed by CCE is executed by the Secretary or his delegate

(the **Commencement Date**).

4. Undertaking

4.1 CCE undertakes for the purposes of section 9.5 of the EP&A Act that it will carry out the steps specified below:

- (1) Provide assistance to the Prosecutor in the Land and Environment Court Proceedings No. 2023/234870, 2023/234871, 2023/234873 and 2023/234874, including by nominating and making relevant personnel of CCE available to provide witness statements and/or affidavits setting out full and frank disclosure of the relevant person's knowledge in connection with the Conduct.

- (2) Deliver a 12 month training program from the Commencement Date, comprising regular refresher talks to staff and contractors involved in all current and future development. These refresher talks will include the following content:
- i. the terms of the development consent and construction certificates, including the approved plans;
 - ii. ensuring that as part of any tendering process these approvals are reviewed and considered;
 - iii. the importance of complying with all of the conditions of the approved development consent and the approved plans;
 - iv. the serious penalties which can imposed upon persons for breaches of the EP&A Act;
 - v. how to identify the approved plans;
 - vi. the processes for reporting any compliance issues to Al Faisal management and others involved in the development process such as the appointed Certifier;
 - vii. the role and responsibilities of the appointed Certifier for the development; and
 - viii. the process for seeking to modify approvals and the importance of modifying any such approvals prior to undertaking works which do not comply with the approved development consent and approved plans.

- (3) CCE will make a financial contribution to Council in the amount of \$50,000.00 to be used by Council for the Assets: Roads, Footpaths & Bridges fund (**Financial Contribution**). The Financial Contribution will be deposited into the following nominated account within 30 days of the Commencement Date:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Account Name: Canterbury Bankstown Council
BSB: 062-111
Account Number: 00000010

- (4) Within 30 days after the Commencement Date, CCE will pay Council:
- (a) a sum of \$3,000.00 for its costs associated with investigating and monitoring the Contraventions and entering into this Undertaking;
 - (b) a sum of \$3,000.00 for external consultant costs associated with the Contraventions; and
 - (c) a further sum of \$30,000.00 for its legal costs in prosecuting the Contraventions in case number 2023/00234872.

(Further Sums)

- (5) The Further Sums will be deposited into the following General Business account of Council:

Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Account Name: Canterbury Bankstown Council
BSB: 062-111
Account Number: 00000010

Ref: Legal Fees Recovery – Court Awarded Costs –
WBS:27.334.01 GL:53707 – GC 202306-46

- (6) Within 30 days after the Commencement Date and upon provision of a Direction from the Department, CCE will pay the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment the sum of \$1,000.00 for its legal costs associated with accepting this Undertaking.

(Departmental Costs)

- (7) The Departmental Costs will be deposited into the following account:

Bank: Westpac
Account Name: DPIE Operating ACC No 2
BSB: 032-001
Account Number: 114428

- (8) CCE will implement the following to satisfy Council that the undertakings have been complied with:

- (a) Email to Council Coordinator Certificate and Building Compliance Gavin.May@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au a copy of the training program described in 4.1(2);
- (b) Email to the Coordinator Certificate and Building Compliance Gavin.May@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au enclosing a copy of the bank statement or transaction receipt that confirms the payment described in paragraph 4.1(3) has been made, within 7 days of making that payment;
- (c) If required, email to the Coordinator Certificate and Building Compliance Gavin.May@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au enclosing a copy of the bank statement or transaction receipt that confirms the payment described in paragraph 4.1(4) has been made, within 7 days of making that payment
- (d) Email to the Coordinator Certificate and Building Compliance Gavin.May@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au enclosing a copy of the bank statement or transaction receipt that confirms the payment described in paragraph 4.1(6) has been made, within 7 days of making that payment;
- (e) Email to the Director - Compliance and Investigations of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment at compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au enclosing a copy of the bank statement or transaction receipt which confirms that the payment described in paragraph 4.1(6) has been made, within 7 days of making that payment.

5. Acknowledgements

- 5.1 Council acknowledges:

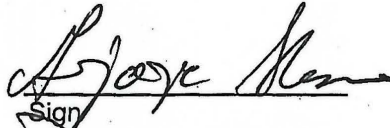
- (1) that while the Undertaking is complied with it will not prosecute CCE for the Contraventions; and
- (2) it will withdraw proceedings 2023/00234872 within 7 days of the Commencement Date.
- (3) The withdrawal of proceedings 2023/00234872 will be with no order as to costs.

5.2 CCE acknowledges:

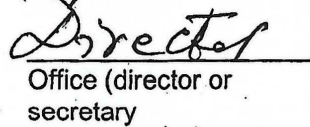
- (1) the Department will make this Undertaking publicly available including by publishing it on the department's public register of section 9.5 undertakings on its website
- (2) the Department will, from time to time, make public reference to this Undertaking including in news media statements and in department's publications
- (3) this Undertaking may be tendered by the Prosecutor in in the Land and Environment Court Proceedings No. 2023/234870, 2023/234871, 2023/234873 and 2023/234874.
- (4) this Undertaking in no way derogates from the rights and remedies available to any other person arising from the Contraventions, and
- (5) The Department may include details of any compliance audits it undertakes of this Undertaking, including records provided under 4.2(1), may be held with this Undertaking in the public register.

Executed as an Enforceable Undertaking under section 9.5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)

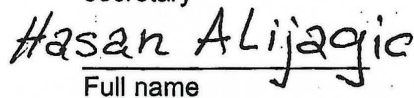
Executed by **Complete Construction Engineering Pty Ltd** ACN 143 485 367 under s.127 (1) of the *Corporations Act 2001*



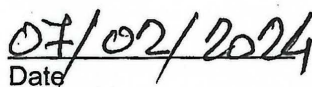
Sign



Office (director or secretary)



Full name



Date

Sign

Office (director or secretary)

Full name

Date

Council has negotiated the undertaking with CCE in relation to Council's functions under the EP&A Act and recommends that the Secretary accept the Undertaking

Date: 13.2.24

Signature of General Manager, Canterbury-Bankstown Council



Accepted by the Secretary of the Department pursuant to section 9.5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* on:

Date: 20 February 2024

Secretary of their delegate:



David Gainsford
Deputy Secretary
Development Assessment and Infrastructure