Mr. Angus Gordon  
Chair  
NSW Coastal Panel  
PO Box A290  
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1232

Dear Mr. Gordon

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION CP13-001: PROPOSED BEACHFRONT REVETMENT WALL ON LOT 13 DP 880692, NO. 8 BERRIMA CRESCENT, UMINA BEACH.

I refer to your letter dated 4th December 2013 requesting clarification and further information in relation to DA CP13-001 for the erection of beachfront revetment wall on Lot 13 DP 880692, No. 8 Berrima Crescent, Umina Beach.

In consideration of the matters raised in your correspondence meetings were held with Mr. Neil Kelleher, Office of Environment and Heritage on the 23rd January 2014 and jointly with Mr. Kelleher and Gosford City Council (Mr. Mark Stables and Mr. Tim MacDonald) on the 30th January 2014.

As a consequence of these discussions and pursuant to Clause 55 (1) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000, Development Application CP13-001 has been amended in response to the issues raised in your correspondence of the 4th December 2013.

Amended Development Application CP13-001.

The following documents provide details and analysis of the amended development application:

- Drawing 89024430-C001: Proposed Revetment Wall (Cardno NSW/ACT Pty Ltd, Revision 3, dated 17th February 2014):

- Drawing 89024430-C002: Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (Cardno NSW/ACT Pty Ltd, Revision 2, dated 19th February 2014; and

- Coastal Engineering Assessment (Cardno NSW/ACT Pty Ltd, dated 14th February 2014.

The design of the revetment wall has been amended to return the southern end wall batter wholly within the property boundary and to amend the cross section and armour stone detail.

The accompanying Coastal Engineering Assessment addresses the various coastal engineering and revetment wall design matters raised in your correspondence.
In relation to ongoing management and maintenance:

- the proposed revetment is contained entirely within the subject property and the owner accepts the ongoing responsibility for maintenance of the proposed structure. This responsibility can be suitably conditioned in a development consent;

- in relation to restoration of the beach in the event of increased erosion resulting from the presence of the works, it is far more difficult to impose a consent condition that is reasonable under the circumstances and provides the appropriate level of clarity and certainty for all parties, particularly as it would first have to be established that any future beach erosion was a consequence of the presence of the wall and not as a consequence of other characteristics of the particular storm or flood event.

The accompanying Coastal Engineering Assessment concludes;

"From a coastal engineering point of view, the existing or any future proposed revetment works will cause minimal interference to normal coastal processes now, and in the foreseeable future. The development would cause about 200m2 of extra erosion of the adjoining beach to the south, should the revetment section in front of public land not be constructed, in a very severe storm."

It is understood that following our meeting with officers of Gosford City Council and Neil Kelleher on the 30th January 2014, the Council will examine the opportunity to access Government grants to enable the construction of a revetment wall to protect public land located immediately to the south of the subject land and the potential for both revetment wall works to be constructed concurrently, in which case the need for a consent condition to address beach erosion would not arise.

We would be prepared to liaise further with the Panel in the development a suitable consent condition to address the issue of beach restoration in the event that the proposed revetment wall is demonstrated to have caused beach erosion in a very severe storm.

Yours Sincerely

Doug Sneddon
21st February 2014.