



Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

File no: FOL/15/25330 [1 - 5]
Event No: P31632

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Brian Walsh
President
Kew Cottages Coalition
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**“..this testing process
could take 4-6 weeks to
determine a result...”**

Dear Mr Walsh

RE: FORMER KEW COTTAGES (KEW RESIDENTIAL SERVICES), PRINCESS STREET (H2073)

I write regarding your recent request for Heritage Victoria to issue a Stop Order in accordance with s. 165 of the *Heritage Act 2017*.

Thank you for drawing my attention to potential issues related to *Phytophthora cinnamomi* and its management at Former Kew Cottages (H2073). Specifically, your request relates to works being undertaken in accordance with Permit Exemption P32075, for utility services installation at the place. It is noted that these are related to the Stage 8 development of the place, approved under Heritage Permit P26760, however do not constitute the start of those works approved in P26760. Permit Exemption P32075 requires works to be in accordance with a Tree Management Plan, which involves regular site monitoring by the consulting arborist.

Since receipt of your request, Heritage Victoria contacted Walker Corporation who are responsible for the above works being undertaken. Walker Corporation have promptly acted in response to the concern that there may be *Phytophthora cinnamomi* present at the site. As such they have engaged their consulting arborist to test for *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, which was taking place on Friday 14 February or early in the week starting 17 February 2020. It is understood that this testing process could take 4-6 weeks to determine a result, due to the cultivation of the pathogen that is required. In the meantime, Walker Corporation's arborists are supervising the works, and will be taking adequate precautions in the management of any potential pathogen. Walker Corporation will be keeping Heritage Victoria informed regarding this issue.

Boroondara City Council have also been informed regarding the potential and history of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* at the place, to assist in the trees that they manage in this landscape.

Given the prompt action of Walker Corporation in managing this issue, including the testing of soil and undertaking reasonable precautions for managing any potential *Phytophthora cinnamomi* present at the

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I am satisfied that there are not reasonable grounds for believing that there is harm being caused....

site, I am satisfied that there are not reasonable grounds for believing that there is harm being caused to the registered place in the works approved in P32075. As such I will not be issuing a stop work order for these works.

Please contact me on (03) 7022 6390 or email at heritage.victoria@delwp.vic.gov.au if you have further queries.

Yours sincerely

I will not be issuing a stop order for these works...



Steven Avery
Executive Director
Heritage Victoria

18/12/20