

Flora and fauna

- 5.1 In 1999 the Department of Defence (DoD) engaged the environmental consultants, LesryK Environmental Consultants, to undertake a flora and fauna assessment of the site of the proposed development.
- 5.2 The subsequent assessment found no endangered species listed under either the *Endangered Species Act 1992* (Cth) or the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1997* (NSW) on the site. Neither the grasslands, aquatic environment and developed areas were considered to provide resources valuable for native fauna species.¹
- 5.3 With respect to flora, the assessment found that recruitment of individual species such a *Pulenaea villosa*, *Daviesi ulicifolia*, *Kunzea ambigua* and *Ozothamnus disomifolius* from adjoining areas had occurred.² In the north eastern portion of the site, the Committee observed that a dense stand of Swamp Oak formed an almost continuous canopy along a drainage line. The Committee also observed that Eucalypts have been planed in lines and small groups and included Grey Gum, Argly Apple, Tallow Wood and Flooded Gum.
- 5.4 With respect to flora the assessment concluded that the majority of vegetation on the site is introduced. Introduced species included Black Bean and Hackberry and introduced grasses such as Buffalo, Kikuyu, Paspalum and Carpet Grass.³
- 5.5 The assessment found that a number of species of flora of conservation significance occur on the site, including *Wilsonia bachousei*, a prostrate saltmarsh herb of state conservation significance. While considered to
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1 Exhibit 2, p. 16.

2 Exhibit 2, p. 16.

3 Exhibit 2, p. 17.

have conservation significance, the salt marsh herb is not listed under Schedule 2 of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (NSW).

- 5.6 The Committee observed during its inspection of the site that some revegetation had occurred from species on adjoining areas and the existence of a small copse of mangroves at the end of the sea wall closest to Kendall Park.
- 5.7 At the public hearing the Committee asked DoD whether there was ever any thought given to allowing mangroves to regenerate at the site. DoD advised that it had given consideration to the matter as part of the foreshore upgrade and that it had been considered that maybe some growth, but not necessarily mangroves, could be established because the wave climate along the foreshore of the site is particularly aggressive.⁴ DoD also advised the Committee that it may establish a small section of salt marsh on the site.⁵

4 Evidence, p. 16.

5 Evidence, p. 23.