



**LEVEL 7**  
**123 ALBERT STREET**  
**BRISBANE QLD 4000**

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Urbis Pty Ltd  
ABN 50 105 256 228

19 February 2018

Mr Simon Clarke  
Assessment Manager  
Douglas Shire Council  
PO Box 723  
Mossman QLD 4873

Dear Simon,

**RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST - DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 441 R CAPE TRIBULATION ROAD, KIMBERLEY, QLD, FORMALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 84 ON SR675. COUNCIL REF: MCUC 2358/2017**

In accordance with Section 13.2 of the *Development Assessment Rules* and on behalf of Optus Mobile Pty Ltd, please find below a full response to the information requested by Council on 22 November 2017 for the above development application for a Development Permit for a Telecommunications Facility at 441R Cape Tribulation Road, Kimberley (Council Reference: MCUC 2358/2017)

Each item from Council's information request letter has been outlined below (*in italics*) along with the respective comments for each item.

*Item 1: Please provide a photomontage of the proposed facility when viewed from Cape Tribulation Road.*

**Response:** A line-of-sight assessment has recently been undertaken onsite to determine whether a direct visual line exists between the proposed site and nearby Optus sites in the direction of Port Douglas. This assessment involved using a drone to hover at an elevation of 40m (above actual ground level). Whilst this assessment was being undertaken, photographs were taken from Cape Tribulation Road towards the proposed facility in both directions, with a view to preparing photomontages. However, the photographs included in **Figure 1** reveal that the dense vegetation along Cape Tribulation Road provides an effective visual screen of the subject site to the extent that the proposal will be scarcely visible from the roadway.

Figure 1 – Photograph towards the site from Cape Tribulation Road looking east



Figure 2 – Photograph towards the site from Cape Tribulation Road looking west



Based on these photographs, it is deemed that a photomontage would be both ineffective and inaccurate given the significant vegetation in the foreground. Whilst the facility may be visible from passing vehicles at a sharp angle to the left (heading northbound) and a sharp angle to the right (heading southbound), it is considered to be unlikely that it will be clearly visible from any vantage point along this road. Importantly, the proposal is not located within an existing view corridor along this road.

*Item 2: Please confirm that the proposed facility will not be visible from the southern side of the Daintree River at the Ferry Crossing.*

**Response:** Photographs have been taken from the southern side of the ferry crossing at the Daintree River towards the proposed facility to the north.

The proposed facility is approximately 600m north of the northern bank of the Daintree River and 850m north of the photograph location on the southern bank of the Daintree River. The majority of vegetation was measured at approximately 25m to 35m in height surrounding the proposed facility and slightly lower towards the river bank. There is also an elevation change of approximately 6m between the location of the proposed facility and the river bank.

Figure 3 – Photograph towards proposed facility from the southern bank of the Daintree River



Figure 4 – Photomontage of proposed facility from the southern bank of the Daintree River



We have prepared an indicative photomontage in **Figure 4** to illustrate how the facility may appear in the landscape. Given the presence of dense vegetation and difficulties associated with the ferry, it was not possible to elevate a structure (such as a boom lift) onsite. Therefore, the photomontage has been prepared using a range of methods to calculate comparative scale and is considered to be our best interpretation of how the facility may appear.

It is likely that the upper portion of the facility may be visible above the tree line (based on the operational requirement for the antennas to be free of any obstacles such as vegetation). However, given that the proposal is for a semi-transparent lattice tower, it is anticipated that the facility will be very difficult to distinguish on the densely vegetated backdrop from this vantage point. This is likely to be the only vantage point in the local area where a portion of the facility may be visible above the tree line given the lack of open space that is void of vegetation in the area.



This correspondence constitutes the total extent of our response to the Information Request made by Council. We ask that Council proceed with the assessment and determination of the application in accordance with the *Development Assessment Rules*.

If you have any questions regarding the attached material, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or Andrew Kennedy on (07) 3007 3800.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Grant Williams".

Grant Williams  
Senior Consultant