

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF25/047139

Mr Brett Tobin
Hatzis Cusack Lawyers

25 August 2025

Dear Mr Tobin,

Application No.	SR0001340540
Applicant	FEDERAL HOTEL MUDGEE PTY LTD
Application for	Change of boundaries
Application date	13 February 2025
Decision date	16 July 2025
Licence name	Federal Hotel
Trading hours	Monday to Saturday 05:00 AM – 12:00 AM Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM
Premises	34 Inglis Street Mudgee NSW 2850
Legislation	Sections 3, 11A, 12, 14, 15, 40, 44, 45, 48, 53, 94, 121 and 123 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a change of boundaries – Federal Hotel

We **approve** the application above under section 94 of the *Liquor Act 2007* (the Act) — with the conditions set out in Schedule 1. The 6-hour closure period overrides any condition of the licence.

Statement of reasons

We are satisfied that the overall impact of approving the application will be consistent with the objects of the Act and will contribute to, not detract from, the amenity of community life.

Our main findings

The local community for the purposes of this decision is the suburb of Mudgee. The broader community is the Local Government Area (LGA) of Mid-Western Regional.

We note that the proposal involves the expansion of the existing hotel licensed area as part of a significant redevelopment, increasing the size of the licensed area from 1,000 to 5,000 square metres.

We recognise that substantial upgrades of this kind are essential for attracting tourists and enhancing Mudgee's accommodation and dining offerings. The venue's current trading hours will remain unchanged, aligning with Mudgee's growing tourism sector.

Social impacts

We accept that the proposal could contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities because of the:

- crime rates – the incident rate of all crime categories we considered is higher in the suburb and LGA than in NSW
- crime hotspots – the premises is located in a medium-density hotspot for malicious damage, however it is not located in crime hotspots for domestic and non-domestic assault or alcohol-related assaults
- health statistics – the rate of alcohol-attributed deaths in the LGA is higher than in NSW, however the rate of alcohol-attributed hospitalisations in the LGA is lower than in NSW
- demographic information:
 - the percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (ATSI) population in the LGA is higher than in NSW
 - Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) data indicates a below average level of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage in the suburb, and an average level in the LGA, compared to other communities in NSW.¹

We also note that the below factors weighed in favour of approval of the application, and may also partially or fully mitigate some of the risks identified above:

- there were no objections or concerns received from government agencies or the community, including the Mudgee Local Aboriginal Land Council
- the hotel has an established hotel licence with no history of non-compliance
- current trading hours will remain unchanged
- the licence will be modernised with additional conditions which will help reduce risks associated with an increase in alcohol consumption on the premises and management of patrons consuming alcohol
- the harm-minimisation measures outlined in the plan of management and licence conditions, as set out in Schedule 1.

The material we considered

We considered the following material when making our decision:

¹ Research shows that the association between liquor outlet density and assaults is stronger in areas with higher percentages of ATSI and in areas with lower socio-economic status (Association of liquor outlet density with domestic and non-domestic assault in New South Wales; Jiang, H., Riordan, B., Laslett, A-M., Livingston, M., Lee, K., James, D., Stearne, A., & Room, R. (2024)).

- the application material — including evidence that stakeholders and the community were notified about the application
- the legislation
- a Statement of Risks and Potential Effects
- the plan of the licensed premises and any authorisations
- a plan of management for the licensed business
- a development consent for the premises
- statistics from Liquor & Gaming NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Health and Australian Bureau of Statistics on the socio-economic status, liquor licence density, alcohol-related crimes rates and health issues in the local and broader communities
- stakeholder submissions and the applicant's response to them.

We also considered [Guideline 6](#) to assess the likely overall impact to the local and broader community.

This decision will be published in accordance with section 36C of the *Gaming and Liquor Administration Act 2007*.

If you have any questions

Please contact Liquor & Gaming NSW at: new.applications@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Lamb

Chairperson

Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Schedule 1: Licence conditions to be imposed - Federal Hotel

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
1.	Consumption on premises	<p>Good Friday: 12:00 noon – 10:00 PM</p> <p>Christmas Day: 12:00 noon–10:00 PM (liquor can only be served with or ancillary to a meal in a dining area)</p> <p>December 31st: Normal opening time until normal closing time or 2:00 AM on New Year's Day, whichever is the later</p> <p>Note: Trading is also allowed after midnight into the early morning of Good Friday and Christmas Day if authorised by an extended trading authorisation. Trading must cease at the time specified under the authorisation. The latest time that can be specified is 5:00 AM.</p>
2.	Take away sales	<p>Good Friday: Not permitted</p> <p>December 24th: Normal trading Monday to Saturday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 midnight on Sunday</p> <p>Christmas Day: Not permitted</p> <p>December 31st: Normal trading Monday to Saturday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 midnight on Sunday.</p>
3.	Overall impact	The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall level of overall impact on the well-being of the local and broader community than what could reasonably be expected from the information contained in the application and other information submitted in the process of changing the licensed boundaries on 16 July 2025.
4.	Liquor plan of management	The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management dated May 2025 as may be varied from time to time after consultation with NSW Police. A copy of the Plan of Management is to be kept on the premises and made available for inspection on the request of a police officer, council officer, Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector, or any other person authorised by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority
5.	Participation in the local liquor accord	The licensee or its representative must join and be an active participant in the local liquor accord.
6.	Complaints register	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A complaints register is to be maintained at the premises at all times which records the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the name and number of the complainant the time and date on which the complaint was received the nature of the complaint, and the measures taken to resolve the complaint. Details of complaints received, either in person or over the phone, must be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> recorded in the complaints register, and reported to the duty manager. A mobile or dedicated contact number for the duty manager is to be published on the hotel's website, and on a sign to be posted at the premises entrance. If requested, the duty manager's contact details must

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		be provided to complainants. A messaging service must be in place if the dedicated contact number is unattended.
7.	CCTV	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The licensee must maintain a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system on the premises in accordance with the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the system must record continuously from opening time until one hour after the premises is required to close (or, in the case of a premises that is not required to cease trading, continuously at all times), b. recordings must be in digital format and at a minimum of ten (10) frames per second, c. any recorded image must specify the time and date of the recorded image, d. the system's cameras must cover the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. all entry and exit points on the premises, ii. the footpath immediately adjacent to the premises, and iii. all publicly accessible areas (other than toilets) within the premises. 2. The licensee must also: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. keep all recordings made by the CCTV system for at least 30 days, b. ensure that the CCTV system is accessible at all times the system is required to operate pursuant to sub-clause 1(a), by at least one person able to access and fully operate the system, including downloading and producing recordings of CCTV footage, and c. provide any recordings made by the system to a police officer or Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector within 24 hours of any request by the police officer or Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector to provide such recordings
8.	Crime scene preservation	<p>Immediately after the person in charge of the licensed premises or a staff member becomes aware of any incident involving an act of violence causing injury to a person on the premises, the person in charge of the licensed premises and/or staff member must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. take all practical steps to preserve and keep intact the area where the act of violence occurred, 2. retain all material and implements associated with the act of violence in accordance with the crime scene preservation guidelines issued by NSW Police, as published from time to time on the Liquor and Gaming NSW website, 3. make direct and personal contact with NSW Police to advise it of the incident, and 4. comply with any directions given by NSW Police to preserve or keep intact the area where the violence occurred. <p>In this condition, 'staff member' means any person employed by, or acting on behalf of, the licensee of the premises, and</p>

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		includes any person who is employed to carry on security activities (e.g. crowd controller or bouncer) on or about the premises.
9.	Incident register	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The licensee must maintain a register, in which the licensee is to record the details of any of the following incidents and any action taken in response to any such incident: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. any incident involving violence or anti-social behaviour occurring on the premises, b. any incident of which the licensee is aware that involves violence or anti-social behaviour occurring in the immediate vicinity of the premises and that involves a person who has recently left, or been refused admission to, the premises, c. any incident that results in a person being turned out of the premises under section 77 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>, d. any incident that results in a patron of the premises requiring medical assistance. 2. The licensee must, if requested to do so by a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. make any such incident register immediately available for inspection by a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector, and b. allow a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector to take copies of the register or to remove the register from the premises. 3. The licensee must ensure that the information recorded in the incident register under this condition is retained for at least 3 years from when the record was made.