

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF24/024293

Mr Lindsay Cornish
Pyramid Liquor Licensing

8 November 2024

Dear Mr Cornish

Application No.	APP-0013523001
Applicant	Ambler-Electrical Engineers Pty. Ltd.
Application for	New (full) hotel licence with extended trading authorisation & minors' area authorisation
Application date	24 July 2024
Decision date	16 October 2024
Proposed licence name	Empire Hotel
Proposed trading hours	<u>Consumption on premises: Ground Floor and First Floor Function Room</u> Monday to Wednesday 10:00 AM -12:00 AM Thursday to Saturday 10:00 AM – 01:00 AM Sunday 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM <u>Consumption on premises: All other areas of the licensed premises</u> Monday to Sunday 10:00 AM - 12:00 AM <u>Take away sales</u> Monday to Saturday 10:00 AM -12:00 AM Sunday 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM
Proposed premises	74 Lovell Street Young NSW 2594
Legislation	Sections 3, 11A, 12, 14, 15 40, 44, 45, 48, 49, 53 and 121 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority
Application for a new (full) hotel licence with extended trading
authorisation & minors' area authorisation - Empire Hotel

We **approve** the application above under section 45 of the *Liquor Act 2007* — with the conditions set out in Schedule 1. The 6-hour closure period overrides any condition of the licence.

Approved manager or individual licensee

The licence cannot be exercised until the Authority or Liquor & Gaming NSW is notified that:

- the licence is transferred to an individual licensee, or an approved manager is appointed; and
- the licensee or approved manager is a suitable and qualified person.

Statement of reasons

We are satisfied that the overall impact of approving the application will not be detrimental to the well-being of the local or broader community, while also promoting a balanced and responsible development of the industry.

Our main findings

The local community for the purposes of this decision is Young. The broader community is the Local Government Area (LGA) of Hilltops.

Positive social impacts

The application is for a new hotel licence with extended trading authorisation and minors' area authorisation at the proposed premises where the previous Empire Hotel traded since the 1880's until the licence was cancelled in 2022 during the Covid-19 pandemic. The proposed premises will not operate gaming machines and reduced the proposed trading hours following concerns raised by the Police.

We are satisfied that the proposal would benefit the local and broader communities by providing increased convenience and choice.

Negative social impacts

We noted objections from the public (including two hotel competitors) and NSW Police and accept that the proposal could contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities due to the:

- location of the proposed premises being in high-density crime hotspots for all categories we considered
- crime rates for all categories we considered being higher in the suburb and LGA than in NSW
- saturation rate of licensed premises in both the suburb and LGA being higher than the NSW rate
- rate of alcohol-attributed deaths in the LGA being higher than in NSW generally
- indication of relative socio-economic disadvantage in the suburb and LGA
- indigenous population in the suburb and the LGA being higher compared to the NSW average.

However, we are satisfied that these risks are reduced due to the:

- applicant reducing the trading hours

- security presence on Thursday to Saturday evenings as described within the plan of management (including an additional guard when a function is held with 50 or more patrons)
- lower rate of alcohol-attributed hospitalisations in the LGA than NSW generally
- harm-minimisation measures outlined in the plan of management and licence conditions, as set out in Schedule 1. This includes additional conditions that were not imposed on the previous licence at the same location.

The material we considered

We considered the following material when making our decision:

- the application material — including evidence that stakeholders and the community were notified about the application
- a Statement of Risks and Potential Effects (SoRPE)
- the plan of the licensed premises and any authorisations
- a plan of management for the licensed business
- previous Empire Hotel licence
- 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 social impact to the local and broader community.

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

Opportunity for review

The applicant and anyone who was notified of the application and made a submission, may apply to [NCAT](#) for a review of the decision.

An application for review must be made no later 28 days after the decision is published on the website. There is a fee to lodge the application.

For more information, please contact the NCAT Registry at Level 10 John Maddison Tower, 86-90 Goulburn Street Sydney or visit the NCAT website.

If you have any questions

Please contact the case manager, Glenn Barry, at Liquor & Gaming NSW if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Chris Honey

Deputy Chairperson

Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Decision by the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Schedule 1: Licence conditions to be imposed – Empire Hotel

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
1.	6-hour closure	Section 11A of the Liquor Act 2007 applies to this licence. Liquor must not be sold by retail on the licensed premises for a continuous period of six (6) hours between 04:00 AM and 10:00 AM during each consecutive period of 24 hours. The licensee must comply with this 6-hour closure period along with any other limits specified in the trading hours for this licence
2.	Restricted trading & NYE	Consumption on premises Good Friday 12:00 noon – 10:00 PM Christmas Day 12:00 noon – 10:00 PM (liquor can only be served with or ancillary to a meal in a dining area) December 31 st Normal opening time until normal closing time or 2:00 AM on New Year's Day, whichever is the later. 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.
3.	Take away sales	Good Friday Not permitted Christmas Day Not permitted December 31 st Normal trading Monday to Saturday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 midnight on Sunday
4.	Extended Trading	Extended Trading Authorisation: Whole of the Ground floor, and First floor Function room.
5.	Minors' Area	Minors' Area Authorisation: Whole of the licensed premises excluding the Main bar area, Lounge and TAB
6.	Plan of management	The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management dated 13 September 2024 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.
7.	Overall impact	The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall level of overall impact on the wellbeing 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 obtaining this licence on 16 October 2024 and obtaining the extended trading authorisation on 16 October 2024 .
8.	Liquor Accord	The licensee or its representative must join and be an active participant in the local liquor accord.
9.	Complaints register	1. A complaints register is to be maintained at the premises at all times which records the following:

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the name and number of the complainant b. the time and date on which the complaint was received c. the nature of the complaint, and d. the measures taken to resolve the complaint. <p>2. Details of complaints received, either in person or over the phone, must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. recorded in the complaints register, and b. reported to the duty manager. <p>3. 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 be provided to complainants. A messaging service must be in place if the dedicated contact number is unattended.</p>
10.	CCTV	<p>1. The licensee must maintain a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system on the premises in accordance with the following requirements:</p> <ul 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: <ul 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. <p>2. The licensee must also:</p> <ul 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 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.
11.	Crime scene preservation	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:

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		<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 includes any person who is employed to carry on security activities (eg. crowd controller or bouncer) on or about the premises.</p>
12.	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 Liquor Act 2007, 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.
13.	No gaming activities	No gaming machines may be operated on the licensed premises
14.	No rapid consumption drinks	<p>The following drinks must not be sold or supplied on the Licensed Premises after midnight:</p> <p>Any drink that contains more than 30 mls of spirits or liqueur and that is designed to be consumed rapidly (commonly referred to as a "shot" or a "shooter").</p>