

15 July, 2008

Scott Jefferies
Director, Major Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Scott:

Re: Modification to Condition 1.1 and 2.19 of the Project Approval for the Desalinated Water Delivery System

The Water Delivery Alliance (WDA) proposes to change a number of the construction methods associated with the works within the Botany Bay Sector of the desalinated water delivery system that is part of Sydney's Desalination Project. Sydney Water and WDA are seeking a modification under Section 75W(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* for Condition 1.1 and 2.19 of the Project Approval (07_0054), granted 22 October 2008 and modified 13 June 2008. The existing Project Approval is based on the indicative construction method described in the Preferred Project Report (PPR).

The proposed changes to the approved project relate to the Botany Bay Sector works between Lady Robinsons Beach, Kyeemagh and Silver Beach, Kurnell and involve:

- Kyeemagh beach zone construction
- Storage of dredged material
- Scale of installation operation and direction of the pipe laying
- Silver Beach bifurcation piece and pipeline
- Mooring of lay barge off Silver Beach.

WDA has assessed the environmental impacts associated with the proposed changes and concluded that overall, the proposed changes will provide a reduction in environmental and social impacts, compared with the approved project. The application for modification of Project Approval for the Botany Bay Sector is enclosed, for your information.

Condition 1.1 - Terms of the Project Approval requires the project to be carried out in accordance with various documents. WDA considers that some of the proposed changes are inconsistent with the approved project and suggests the following modification to Condition of Approval 1.1 so that the approved project reflects the proposed changes.

Condition	Suggested amendment	Proposed modified condition
Condition 1.1 of the Project Approval	Add reference to this document – <i>Desalinated Water Delivery System: Application for Modification of Project Approval for the Botany Bay Sector, prepared by the Water Delivery Alliance for Sydney's Desalination Project and dated 15 July 2008;</i>	The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the: a) <i>Environmental Assessment of the Desalinated Water Delivery System, dated April 2007, and prepared by GHD on behalf of the Proponent;</i> b) <i>Desalinated Water Delivery System: Preferred Project Report, dated August 2007, and prepared by Sydney Water Corporation;</i> c) <i>Desalinated Water Delivery System: Application for Modification of Project Approval for the Urban Sydney Sector: Sydney North, prepared by the Water Delivery Alliance for Sydney's Desalination Project and dated 5 May 2008;</i> d) <i>Desalinated Water Delivery System: Application for Modification of Project Approval for the Botany Bay Sector, prepared by the Water Delivery Alliance for Sydney's Desalination Project and dated 15 July 2008;</i> e) <i>the concept plan approval granted with respect to the Kurnell Desalination Plant concept plan (05_0082); and</i> f) <i>the conditions of this approval.</i>

Condition 2.19 of the Project Approval outlines the requirements for monitoring turbidity outside the silt curtains. Experience with monitoring the turbidity outside the silt curtain at Silver Beach has shown it is impractical to take turbidity readings at a point mid-depth in the water column and two metres from the silt curtains. A more practical condition would allow variation of the monitoring depth, depending on the equipment (eg monitoring buoy, cutter suction dredge or discharge barge), as well as providing a range from the silt curtain. WDA has consulted with DECC to reach a practical and achievable monitoring outcome that meets the intent of monitoring and maintaining the water quality in Botany Bay. WDA suggests the following modification to Condition 2.19 of the project approval.

Condition	Suggested amendment	Proposed modified condition
Condition 2.19 of the Project Approval	Delete: <i>at a point mid-depth in the water column and a distance of two metres from the silt curtain.</i> Replace with: <i>at a point of approximately 0.2 m depth for Silver Beach and between 1 and 1.5 m depth in the water column for all other sites and equipment and a distance of within ten metres from the silt curtain.</i>	<i>The Proponent shall ensure that construction of the Botany Bay Sector, including all dredging, subsurface storage and reclamation works, is carried out in a manner such that turbidity outside the silt curtains (as required under condition 2.18) does not exceed the background turbidity by more than an equivalent suspended sediment concentration of 50mg/L at a point of approximately 0.2 m depth for Silver Beach and between 1 and 1.5 m depth in the water column for all other sites and equipment and a distance of within ten metres from the silt curtain. No visible surface plume outside the silt curtains is permitted.</i>

Sydney Water and WDA consider the proposed changes and amendment to be consistent with the Concept Approval granted by the Minister for Planning on 16 November 2006, and that no modification to the Concept Approval is necessary. The WDA would appreciate your early consideration of the subject request for modification to Condition 1.1 and 2.19. A cheque for \$750 for the modification fee is also enclosed.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Wayne Duffy on 9551 2227 or wayne.duffy@wdalliance.com

Sincerely,



Niall O'Brien
Environment Manager
Water Delivery Alliance



Murray Johnson
Environment Program Manager
Sydney Water

Enclosure

- *Water Delivery Alliance (2008) Desalinated Water Delivery System: application for modification of Project Approval for the Botany Bay Sector.*
- *Cheque for Modification fee*

