



## Office of Water

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13 August 2010

Our ref: ER21062  
File:  
Your ref: MP10\_0071

**Attention: Ms Kate Masters**

Dear Mr Woodland

**Subject: MP10\_0071 – Stage 2A(i) City East Zone Substation Project - Environmental Assessment – City of Sydney local government area**

I refer to your letter of 15 July 2010 seeking comment from the NSW Office of Water (NOW) on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the above major project.

NOW's key issues with the EA are in relation to groundwater and are outlined in Attachment A.

**Contact Details:**

If you require further information please contact Janne Grose on (02) 4729 8262 at the Penrith office.

Yours sincerely

**Mark Mignanelli**  
Manager Major Projects and Assessment

## NSW Office of Water Comments

### Stage 2A(i) City East Zone Substation Project - Environmental Assessment

#### Groundwater

The Office of Water (NOW) in its submission on the adequacy of the Environmental Assessment (EA) advised that in order for NOW to assess the need for a water licence the extent of dewatering, including pumping volumes, flow rates and water quality needed to be known. Section 15.2.2 of the EA indicates that groundwater is likely to inflow to excavations that extend below RL-7, including those for the basement, bridging structure, stub tunnel and shaft (page 115) and it is noted that a licence from NOW will be obtained under the *Water Act 1912* for the dewatering.

Section 15.3 of the EA outlines that additional geotechnical and groundwater investigations would be undertaken and the results would be considered as part of the detailed process and development of the treatment system. Appendix D also indicates geotechnical investigations and analysis will be undertaken under hydrogeology/groundwater. Pending further information on the magnitude of groundwater inflows a licence under Part 5 of the *Water Act 1912* may be required from the NSW Office of Water (NOW).

#### Statement of Commitments

NOW notes the draft Statement of Commitments (Table 17-1) includes a commitment under 'soil and water' (see page 128) for a Water Quality Management Sub-Plan to be prepared as part of the CEMP for the project. NOW requests it be provided with a copy of the Water Quality Management Sub-Plan and results, regardless of whether or not a licence under Part 5 of the *Water Act 1912* is deemed necessary by NOW.

The results of the additional geotechnical and groundwater investigations need to be provided to NOW. It is recommended the Statement of Commitment outlines that the results of the investigations are to be provided to NOW.

The following amendments (italicised in bold) are recommended for inclusion in the Statement of Commitments (soil and water, page 128):

- ***The Proponent shall provide the NSW Office of Water with a copy of the Water Quality Management Sub-Plan and results.***
- ***The Proponent shall provide the NSW Office of Water with a copy of the results of the geotechnical investigations and analysis relating to groundwater.***

End Attachment A  
13 August 2010