

Our ref: OUT25/15523

Tuongvi Doan
Planning Group
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Email: Tuongvi.Doan@dpie.nsw.gov.au

17/12/2025

Subject: Abel Tasman Village Seniors Housing (SSD-49937206) – Environmental Impact Statement

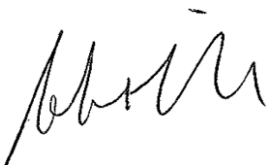
Dear Tuongvi Doan,

I refer to your request for advice sent on 26 November 2025 to the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Water Group about the above matter.

The NSW DCCEEW Water Group has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement and makes recommendations in regard to reinjection of groundwater and water licensing. Please see Attachment A for more detail.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact the DCCEEW Water Assessments team at water.assessments@dcceew.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Brownbill".

Rob Brownbill
Manager, Water Assessments, Knowledge Division
NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPHI Planning & Assessment regarding the Abel Tasman Seniors Village Housing (SSD-49937206) – EIS

1.0 Water supply works and licensing

1.1 Recommendation – post determination

Should reinjection of groundwater be required, the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) should request the proponent to identify the water supply works and assess the impacts in accordance with the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy.

Explanation

The Dewatering Management Plan includes an unlikely option of using reinjection to manage dewatering related impacts. As this is yet to be confirmed, no details on infrastructure or impacts have been provided. Should reinjection be required, further information, including an assessment of impacts will need to be completed prior to the activity occurring.

1.2 Recommendation – post-determination

That DPHI requests the proponent to obtain a water access licence (WAL) to account for the maximum predicted water take for construction and operation activities unless an exemption applies under the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2025*.

Explanation

The Dewatering Management Plan predicts groundwater seepage during construction of 0.45 ML/yr and operation of 0.32 ML/yr. Under the *Water Management Act 2000*, if groundwater is intercepted a WAL must be obtained prior to any water take occurring unless an exemption under the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2025* applies. An exemption may be available during construction or operations activities where the water take is less than or equal to 3 ML per water year (cl 19, sch 4 of WM Reg). To claim this exemption certain requirements must be met, such as

- the person claiming the exemption keeps a record of the water taken under the exemption and provides this to the Minister within 28 days of the end of the water year; and
- the records are kept for 5 years.

Further information on these requirements and other information on licensing and approvals and exemptions, including a form to report and record water taken can be found at:

<https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/licensing-and-trade> and [Groundwater access licence exemptions](#) | [NSW Government Water](#).

End Attachment A