



Department of Planning and Environment

OUT21/18041

Jeffrey Peng
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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Dear Mr Peng

**Grenfell Poultry Breeder Farm (SSD-13855453)
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

I refer to your email of 9 December 2021 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

The proponent is seeking State Significant Development (SSD) approval to construct a poultry breeding/rearing farm, approximately 40 km west of Cowra in Central West New South Wales.

DPE Water and NRAR have reviewed the EIS and have concerns regarding water access and impact assessment(s) for any additional water infrastructure that may be required.

Any further referrals to DPE Water and NRAR can be sent by email to water.assessments@dpie.nsw.gov.au, or to the following coordinating officer within DPE Water:

Alistair Drew – Project Officer
E: alistair.drew@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Liz Rogers".

Liz Rogers
Manager, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning and Environment: Water
28 February 2022

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPE Planning & Assessment regarding the Grenfell Poultry Breeder Farm (SSD-13855453) EIS

1.0 Water Take and Compliance

1.1 Recommendations – Prior to Determination

The proponent should:

- Confirm the requirement for additions or modifications to the water supply infrastructure for the project and complete an impact assessment of its installation and operation.
- Progress formal discussions with Central Tablelands Water to ensure there are no issues in accessing water for the project.

1.2 Recommendations – Post Approval

The proponent should:

- Prepare a Construction Environmental Management Plan (incorporating a Soil and Water Management Plan) prior to commencement of activities.
- Design the sediment basins in accordance with Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom 2004) and will need to meet an excluded work definition in Sch 1(3) of the *Water Management Regulation 2018* to be exempt from water licensing requirements.
- Ensure watercourse crossings and other works within waterfront land are in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (NRAR 2018).

1.3 Explanation

The water demand of 1ML/d (365ML/yr) is to be sourced under an agreement with Central Tablelands Water (CTW). The EIS indicates preliminary discussions with CTW have identified the ability to supply the necessary water quantity and quality, however this is yet to be confirmed. Securing an agreement with CTW is critical to the viability of this project.

The EIS references further work is required in consultation with CTW to finalise the design and to determine the need for upgrades to the water supply infrastructure. It is recommended any additional infrastructure required for this project be detailed and assessed as part of this current SSD process to prevent the need for additional regulatory processes.

A number of minor watercourses are evident within or adjacent to the disturbance footprint. Managing runoff from these watercourses will need to ensure water is diverted in a stable manner around the development sites and into the downstream waterways. A third order watercourse is noted on the southern side of Farm 3. A vegetated buffer needs to be established in this area consistent with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (NRAR 2018).

The flood impact assessment predicted increased afflux upstream of the bridge and increased velocity downstream of culverts. The detailed design will need to minimise hydraulic and hydrological impacts and to develop appropriate mitigating measures. Implementation of the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (NRAR 2018) will assist in managing these issues.

The proponent has committed to preparing Erosion and Sediment Control Plans in accordance with the guideline; Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom 2004). This is supported.

2.0 Groundwater Management

2.1 Recommendation – Post Approval

The proponent should:

- Incorporate construction and ongoing monitoring of at least one groundwater monitoring bore within the Water Management Plan for the development. The bore should target alluvial groundwater and be located on the project site, down-gradient of treated water discharge locations. Adequate baseline data should be obtained prior to commencement of operation.

2.2 Explanation

The site boundaries extend over two water sharing plans including fractured rock and alluvial groundwater sources which include nearby water users. Surface water treatment is proposed via a series of channels and detention basins, presenting a potential risk for seepage of nutrients into groundwater. Monitoring of the groundwater is recommended to detect changes to groundwater quality and enable the proponent to initiate an appropriate response.

End Attachment A