



DOC22/245647

30 March 2022

Mr Nathan Heath
Senior Planning Officer
Social and Other Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment

(via Major Projects Planning Portal)

**Upper South Creek Advanced Water Recycling Centre (AWRC) (SSI 8609189)
EPA advice on Amendment Report**

Dear Mr Heath

I am writing to you in reply to your request to the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to provide comment on the Amendment Report for the above project.

The EPA understands the project involves construction and operation of a Sydney Water Corporation (Sydney Water) wastewater treatment plant on a site at Kemps Creek with the ability to treat wastewater flows up to an advanced (reverse osmosis) level before discharging effluent to South Creek, the Nepean River and potentially the Warragamba River.

The project will also involve the construction and operation of pipelines to discharge treated water to the Nepean and Warragamba Rivers, and to discharge brine from the reverse osmosis process to the Malabar sewer system.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) has previously been submitted for the project. The EPA provided comment on the EIS in November and December 2021 (ref No. *DOC21/1042313*, *DOC21/1040063*).

It is understood that the Amendment Report outlines changes that have been made to the project since the exhibition of the EIS. These changes are as follows:

- Amendments to the alignment of the treated water pipeline and brine pipeline at various locations; and
- A reduction in the size of the site boundary of the AWRC.

The EPA has reviewed the following Amendment Report documents:

- *Upper South Creek AWRC Amendment Report*, dated March 2022, prepared by Sydney Water
- *Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment – Amendment Report*, dated 2 December 2021, prepared by Aurecon/ARUP (the Amended NVIA)

The EPA has reviewed the above documents and notes that the amendments proposed for the project are primarily limited to changes in construction noise impacts. The EPA comments on the Amendment Report are provided at **Appendix A**. These comments should be considered in addition to the comments previous provided by the EPA on the project EIS.

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Should you require any clarification on any of the above, please contact Daniel Burchmore on 9995 5995 or via email at daniel.burchmore@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Wilson', written in a cursive style.

TREVOR WILSON
Unit Head Regulatory Operations Metro South

APPENDIX A

1. Noise and Vibration

The Amended NVIA indicates that the changes to pipeline alignments for the project will result in the following changes to noise impacts:

- Increase in construction noise impacts for sensitive receivers at the Northern Road realignment for the treated water pipeline (TP-U4) over a period of approximately eight weeks;
- An increase in construction noise impacts for some sensitive receivers at the Bartley Street brine pipeline realignment (C13, BP-U11) over a period of approximately three to six months. Other sensitive receivers near to previous alignment are projected to have reduced noise impacts.

The key to effectively managing these will be strong and proactive engagement and consultation with these communities about the predicted impacts, and what mitigation and management measures will be implemented to address them. It is noted the Amended NVIA that the proponent has provided communication materials to multiple stakeholders likely to be affected by the Bartley Street realignment, and that no responses have yet been received.

The proponent must also ensure that all feasible and reasonable mitigation and management measures, including those outlined in Section 7.6 of the original NVIA, are implemented prior to the commencement of construction activities. These measures should extend beyond community notification of upcoming works and consider community views in works programming and management.

2. Surface Water

The EPA's previous comments on the EIS noted that need for justification for trenching of Kemps Creek and South Creek during construction of the treated water and brine pipelines. It is noted that the amended project will no longer required trenching of these waterbodies, and these comments subsequently no longer apply.