

OUT22/21616

Keith Ng
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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Dear Keith Ng

Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2 (SSI-10035) - EIS

I refer to your request of 8 November 2022 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water about the above matter.

This project proposal involves the construction and operation of a 10km section of light rail track between Camellia and Sydney Olympic Park.

DPE Water has reviewed the EIS for the Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2 project and recommends additional information be provided to confirm water demands, water sources and water take, in addition to the provision of a consolidated site water balance. Post approval recommendations have also been included to address works on waterfront land and water licensing for the project.

Please see Attachment A for more detail.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this submission please do not hesitate to contact DPE Water Assessments water.assessments@dpie.nsw.gov.au or to the following coordinating officer within DPE Water:

Tim Baker – Senior Project Officer
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Yours sincerely



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

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPE Planning & Assessment regarding the Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2 (SSI-10035) – EIS

1.0 Water Demands, Take and Licensing

1.1 Recommendation – Prior to Approval

That the proponent provides further information to clarify the maximum annual site water demands and proposed sources if required. Where water is required, the proponent needs to demonstrate sufficient water entitlement is available and/or agreements with third party providers.

1.2 Explanation

Insufficient information was provided to confirm the water demands for construction and operation of the project, and if required, where the water is to be sourced from and the licensing arrangements. This information assists in ensuring the project has access to sufficient water and it can be appropriately licensed.

1.3 Recommendation – Prior to Approval

That the proponent provides further information to quantify the potential for groundwater take associated with aquifer interference activities required for the project.

1.4 Explanation

Insufficient information has been provided to confirm the potential water take due to aquifer interference. Estimates are requested as should this total more than 3ML, the take would not be exempt and sufficient water entitlement would need to be obtained.

1.5 Recommendation – Post Determination

The proponent should obtain a Water Access Licence (WAL) under the *Water Management Act 2000* for groundwater interception unless the water take is less than or equal to 3ML per year for any aquifer interference activities listed in Clause 7 of Schedule 4 of the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2018*.

1.6 Explanation

The EIS has noted the potential for groundwater interception and the volume will need to be considered in terms of exemption or license requirements to ensure the water regulatory framework can be met. It is noted the exemption for rail infrastructure facilities in Schedule 4, Clause 1 of the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2018* is not applicable to projects assessed under the SSI framework.

1.6 Recommendation – Post Determination

That should the activity meet the requirements of a WAL exemption under Clause 7 of Schedule 4 of the *WM Reg 2018*, the proponent will be required to meet recording and reporting requirements detailed in Clause 21(6) of the *WM Reg 2018*.

2.0 Waterfront Land

2.1 Recommendation – Post Determination

That the proponent ensures works within waterfront land are designed and constructed in accordance with the *Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land*.

2.2 Explanation

The proposed activities have included works within waterfront land, such as the two bridges over the Parramatta River. The Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land provides appropriate design, construction and management advice to mitigate impacts.

End of Attachment