



Our reference: P-475904-M7J2  
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19 April 2023

Department of Planning and Environment  
Attn: Nathan Heath

Email: [nathan.heath@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nathan.heath@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Nathan,

### **Council Advice Regarding Modification Application - SSI-8609189 – MOD 1**

This advice relates to the proposal by Sydney Water to modify an approved wastewater processing facility known as the Upper South Creek Advanced Water Recycling Centre (**AWRC**), under MOD 1 of SSI-8609189.

The AWRC was identified as Critical State Significant Infrastructure (**SSI**) and was approved by the Minister for Planning on 28 November 2022. The project is identified as being critical to the provision of wastewater services to support the anticipated population growth and future redevelopment of the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Growth Area (**WSAGA** or Aerotropolis), South-West Growth Area (**SWGA**) and the Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport currently under construction.

The subject modification application proposes to delete a section of pipeline within Stage 1, known as the environmental flows pipeline being a total of 4.5kms in length, including all immediately related infrastructure and civil works.

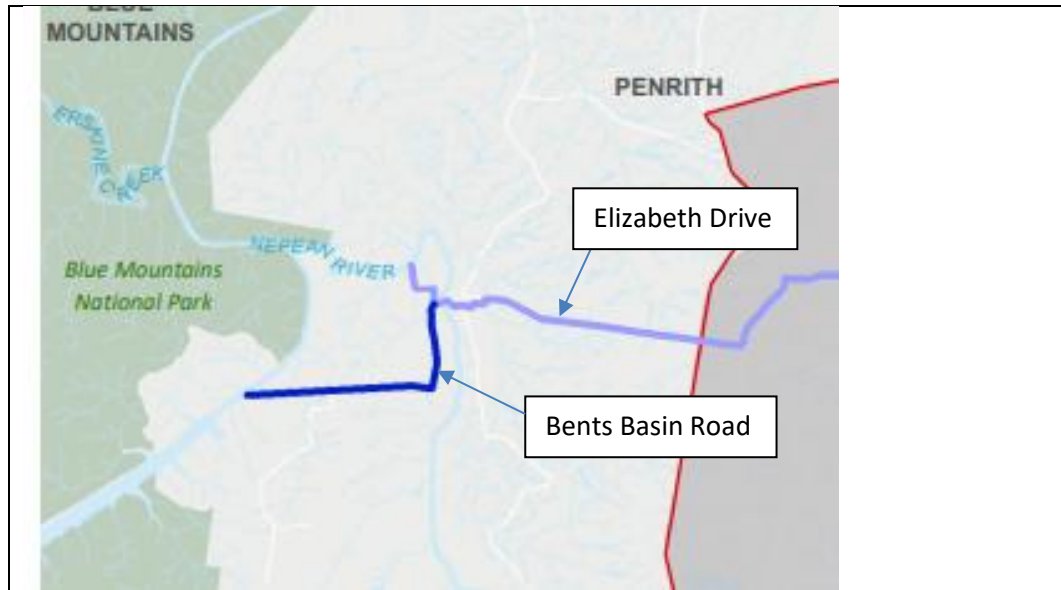
Information provided within the Modification Report includes that the original Environmental Impact Statement (**EIS**) lodged with the State Significant Infrastructure application (**SSI**) detailed a proposed environmental flows pipeline, although included that the pipeline may not be built.

The Modification Report also includes that the removal of the environmental flows pipeline will reduce overall environmental and community impacts of the AWRC development. The amendment will result in the removal of 4.5kms of pipeline including directly related civil, trenching, and tunnelling works and reduces the approved number of construction compounds from 15 to 13 (construction compounds C1 and C2 are proposed to be deleted from the scope).

The Report also notes that the original EIS ...*'identified the potential extraction of surface water from Nepean River to support tunnelling construction of the environmental flows pipeline. This would have required a Water Access Licence under section 56 of the Water Management Act 2000. The proposed modification means this extraction and licence will no longer be required...'*

It is noted that there are no proposed changes to other aspects of the approved AWRC including to approved flows, extent of works elsewhere across the project, water quality or to the approved brine or treated water pipelines.

**Figure 1** below identifies the section of pipeline which will no longer form part of the approved AWRC, should the modification be supported.



**Figure 1 (above):** Excerpt from Modification Report. The proposal includes the deletion of the Environmental Flows Pipeline, related trenching, tunnelling, and release structure (pipeline to be deleted is indicated with a dark blue line).

It is further noted that Sydney Water has issued letters to effected landowners advising of the proposed amended project description and to date, no responses had been received.

Thank you for providing Council with the opportunity to comment on the modification application. Council has reviewed the documentation and raises no objections or other matters for additional consideration in the Department's assessment of the application.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 4732 8567.

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn Saunders  
Principal Planner