

Our ref: OUT23/14087

Judith Elijah
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NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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14 September 2023

Subject: **Narwee Parklands Seniors Housing (SSD-45024776) - Response to Submissions (RTS)**

Dear Judith Elijah

I refer to your request for advice sent on 1 September 2023 to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Water about the above matter.

DPE Water has reviewed the RTS and has recommendations regarding licencing and dewatering. 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Baker".

Tim Baker,
Senior Project Officer, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning and Environment - Water

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPE Planning & Assessment regarding the Narwee Parklands Seniors Housing (SSD-45024776) - RTS

1.0 Groundwater Licencing

1.1 Recommendation – Post Approval

Should groundwater be intercepted a Water Access Licence (WAL) under the *Water Management Act 2000* must be obtained unless an exemption applies under the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018.

Explanation

The proponent notes groundwater is very unlikely to be intercepted for the duration of the project, and in the event there is, it is likely to be minor.

Under the *Water Management Act 2000*, if groundwater is intercepted a Water Access Licence (WAL) must be obtained prior to any water take occurring unless an exemption under Clause 7 of Schedule 4 of the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018 applies. An exemption may be available if water take is less than or equal to 3 ML per water year, subject to the development meeting other exemption requirements, such as:

- the water is not taken for consumption or supply;
- 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 exemptions, including an exemption application form and a form to report and record water taken, can be found on:

<https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/licensing-and-trade/licensing/groundwater-wal-exemptions>

2.0 Groundwater Dewatering and Impact Assessment

2.1 Recommendation – Post Approval

If take of groundwater is to be greater than 3ML per year, the proponent must prepare a Dewatering Management Plan in consultation with DPE Water. The DMP will need to include an assessment against the requirements of the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012).

Explanation

Although groundwater interception is not anticipated, DPE Water provides this recommendation to be addressed where groundwater take is predicted to exceed 3ML per year (for construction or operation). This could be based on projected inflow figures from the actual records required to meet the 3ML/yr exemption under Clause 7 of Schedule 4 of the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018 (as per the explanation for Recommendation 1.1 above).

Dewatering Management Plan's should consider the Guidelines for Groundwater Documentation for SSD/SSI Projects (2022) and the Minimum Requirements for Building Site Groundwater Investigations and Reporting (2022) to ensure the documentation required is fit for purpose. These documents are available at:

- https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/541605/minimum-requirements-for-building-site-groundwater-investigations-and-reporting.pdf
- https://water.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/507611/Guidelines-for-Groundwater-Documentation-for-SSD-SSI-Projects.pdf

End Attachment A
