



OUT20/8667

Mary Ellen Trimble
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Ms Trimble

Gunnedah Waste Facility- SSD 8530563
Comment on the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)

I refer to your email of 17 July 2020 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

The following recommendations are provided by DPIE Water and NRAR. Please note Crown Lands, the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) – Fisheries and DPI - Agriculture all now provide a separate response directly to you.

The SEARS should include:

- The identification of an adequate and secure water supply for the life of the project. This includes confirmation that water can be sourced from an appropriately authorised and reliable supply. This is also to include an assessment of the current market depth where water entitlement is required to be purchased.
- A detailed and consolidated site water balance.
- Assessment of impacts on surface and ground water sources (both quality and quantity), related infrastructure, adjacent licensed water users, basic landholder rights, watercourses, riparian land, and groundwater dependent ecosystems, and measures proposed to reduce and mitigate these impacts.
- Proposed surface and groundwater monitoring activities and methodologies.
- Consideration of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012), the Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (2018) and the relevant Water Sharing Plans (available at <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water>).

Any further referrals to DPIE – NRAR & Water can be sent by email to:
landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Any further referrals to (a) Crown Lands; (b) DPI – Fisheries; and (c) DPI – Agriculture can be sent by email to: (a) lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au;
(b) ahp.central@dpi.nsw.gov.au; and (c) landuse.ag@dpi.nsw.gov.au respectively.

Yours sincerely

Alistair Drew
Project Officer, Assessments
Water – Strategic Relations
22 July 2020