



21 September 2020

Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
Industry Assessments
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Rebecca Sommer

SSI-8896– BELMONT DORUGT RESPONSE DESALINATION PLANT, SUBMISSIONS AND AMENDMENTS REPORT, BELMONT NORTH.

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) advises that legislation to dissolve Roads and Maritime Services and transfer its assets, rights and liabilities to TfNSW came into effect on 1 December 2019. It is intended that the new structure will enable TfNSW to deliver more integrated transport services across modes and better outcomes to customers and communities across NSW.

For convenience, correspondence, advice or submissions made to or by Roads and Maritime Services prior to its dissolution, are referred to in this letter as having been made to or by 'TfNSW'.

On 08 September 2020 TfNSW accepted the referral by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Planning Portal regarding the abovementioned Submissions and Amendments Report (the Report). DPIE referred the Report to TfNSW for comment. This letter is a submission in response to that referral.

It is noted Hunter Water Corporation previously prepared an environmental impact statement (EIS) to assess the potential impacts of the Project, and the EIS was exhibited by DPIE for a period of 28 days, from 21 November to 19 December 2019. TfNSW reviewed the EIS and provided its advice in a letter dated 30 January 2020.

The Submissions and Amendment Report considers the issues raised in the community, agency and stakeholder submissions received during the public exhibition of the EIS, and Hunter Water's response to these issues. It also provides description and assessment of the proposed changes made to the Project as described in the EIS.

It is understood that the proposal be for Hunter Water Corporation to construct and operate a drought response desalination plant (the 'Project'), adjacent to the Belmont Wastewater Treatment Works in Belmont South.

The Project described in the EIS included the construction and operation of a desalination plant, designed to produce up to 15 megalitres per day (ML/d) of potable water. The desalination plant proposed in amended report would have a capacity of up to 30 ML/day of potable water.

The Report state, for amended proposal, *“a total of 752 trucks are expected to access the construction site across an eight month timeframe for construction of the intake as a worst case scenario. This results in an average of approximately 94 trucks accessing the Project area per month (a decrease of 16 trucks per month from that described in the EIS1), being approximately four trucks per day (a decrease of one truck per day from that described in the EIS).”* The report further states in addition to above *“there will be 30 inbound and 30 outbound worker movements (light vehicles) per day (an increase of 20 inbound and 20 outbound light vehicle movements from that described in the EIS)”*.

Traffic Assessment states that there is expected to be very little operational or maintenance input for the desalination plant for the amended Project.

TfNSW response & requirements

TfNSW's primary interests are in the road network, traffic and broader transport issues. In particular, the efficiency and safety of the classified road network, the security of property assets and the integration of land use and transport.

The Pacific Highway (A43) is a classified State road, and Beach Street and ocean Park Road are local roads. Council is the roads authority for both roads and all other public roads in the area, in accordance with Section 7 of the *Roads Act 1993*.

TfNSW have reviewed the Belmont Drought Response Desalination Plant Submissions and Amendment Report prepared by GHD and dated August 2010, and its appendices, including Appendix P Traffic Assessment dated 29 June 2020, and raises no objection to or requirements for the proposed development as it is considered there will be no significant impact on the nearby classified (State) road network.

On determination of this matter, please forward a copy to TfNSW for record and / or action purposes. Should you require further information please contact Kumar Kuruppu, Development Assessment Officer, on 0429 037 333 or by emailing development.hunter@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Peter Marler
Manager Land Use Assessment
Hunter Region