



Office of Water

Major Projects Assessments
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
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Our ref : ER21657
Your ref: SSD-4964

Attention: Kerry Hamann

Dear Ms Hamann

**Construction and Operation of Camellia Recycling Facility – 37 Grand Avenue,
Camellia – Director General Requirements SSD-4964**

I refer to your email of 19 October 2011 requesting environmental assessment requirements from the NSW Office of Water (Office of Water) for the above State Significant Development project.

The Office of Water's key issues and assessment requirements for the project are outlined in **Attachment A**.

Contact Details:

If you require further information please contact Janne Grose on (02) 4729 8262 at the Penrith office.

Yours sincerely

Mark Mignanelli
Manager Major Projects, Mines and Assessment
21 November 2011

NSW Office of Water Comments

Construction and Operation of Camellia Recycling Facility – 37 Grand Avenue, Camellia – Director General Requirements

Protection and enhancement of riparian land

Section 2.2.2 of the Supporting Document indicates the site has an existing riparian area (including mangroves and grassland) which is located adjacent to the Parramatta River. The NSW Office of Water (Office of Water) recommends the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) include details on the following:

- scaled plans of the riparian area at the site in relation to the existing development and the proposed development footprint
- location of the top of bank
- the aquatic and riparian environment including:
 - a. photographs of the existing riparian area on the site and a plan locating where the photographs were taken
 - b. riparian vegetation potentially affected by the project
 - c. aquatic and riparian fauna and habitat
- potential impacts of the proposal on the aquatic and riparian environment including:
 - a. bed and bank stability
 - b. aquatic and riparian vegetation
 - c. aquatic and riparian fauna
- safeguard measures to mitigate impacts, including the minimum riparian width (measured from top of bank) to be established and protected at the site and the rehabilitation of riparian vegetation; contingency plans for remediation and rehabilitation of the riparian areas in the event of potential adverse impacts.

The Parramatta River is a key waterway linkage and it is recommended the proposal protects and enhances riparian land along the river. While it is recognised the riparian land at the site is compromised and impeded by existing development along the local reach of this waterway there is a need for improved revegetation with plantings of local native riparian vegetation to enhance the local foreshore connectivity value.

It is recommended that there is no further encroachment of the proposed development into the existing riparian area. It is recommended that a minimum 30 m wide riparian area, measured from top of bank along the river, is maintained. If space is available, it is recommended that wider widths are provided to ensure there is no further loss and decrease of riparian land along the river.

The assessment needs to address the proposed use of a concrete and asphalt cap in relation to the rehabilitation of riparian land and provide details on whether it is possible to rehabilitate all the riparian area. If it is not possible, the assessment should address the reasons why the riparian area can not be replanted. If the riparian area can be rehabilitated and planted with riparian vegetation details need to be provided in the assessment on how this is to be achieved as part of the project.

Surface Water and Groundwater

The assessment needs to provide adequate details to assess the impact of the proposal on surface water and groundwater resources. Sufficient detail needs to be provided in the assessment for the Office of Water to assess any water licensing requirements, including:

- the source(s) of a sustainable water supply for the project;
- any existing surface water and groundwater licences on the subject land;
- any proposed surface water extraction for the proposal, including purpose, location of any existing and proposed pumps, dams;
- any proposed groundwater extraction related to the project;
- volumes of water predicted to be used;
- the design, layout, pumping and storage capacities, all associated earthworks and infrastructure works must be clearly shown and explained; and
- the function and location of all existing and proposed storages/ponds on the site.

Groundwater

The Office of Water is responsible for the management of the groundwater resources. The proposal needs to protect groundwater resources in accordance with NSW State groundwater policy, enhance groundwater quality and protect groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs).

Section 6.7 of the Supporting Document indicates the groundwater and fill material is contaminated and that the site has been capped with concrete and asphalt to contain the contamination. It is not clear if it is proposed to build the waste recycling facility on top of the existing cap, or if it is proposed to remove the cap and excavate and whether it is likely to intercept or use groundwater.

If the project proposes to remove the cap and excavate the Office of Water needs to be approached to obtain specific groundwater issues to be addressed in the assessment.

**End Attachment A
21 November 2011**