

Director-General's Requirements

Section 78A(8A) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*

Application number	SSD - 6284
Project	Upgrade of the Wagga Wagga Water Treatment Plant with a 55ML/day Clarification and Dual Media Filtration process and the ability to treat raw water with turbidity levels up to 300 NTU.
Location	91 Hammond Avenue Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 The proposal is located within the Wagga Wagga Council area.
Proponent	Riverina Water County Council
Date issued	15 January 2014
General requirements	The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared in accordance with and meet the minimum requirements of Schedule 2 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i> (Regulation), with particular reference to the information required by clauses 6 and 7 of that schedule. The EIS must also include the following: • construction methods, location and alignment of project components, operation details including changes to existing operations, system capacity, treatment technology and water quality standards, wet weather and flood event management and interfaces with existing infrastructure, energy requirements and any staging; • an assessment of the need for, scale, scope, operational mode and location of the project in relation to predicted water usage and demand; and • an analysis of site suitability with respect to potential land use conflicts with existing and future land uses, taking into account local and strategic land use objectives.
Key issues	The EIS must include assessment of the following key issues: Strategic Justification – the EIS must: ➤ clearly outline the strategic context of the project, having regard to existing and future development in the area and relevant government policies and strategies; and ➤ describe the need for and objectives of the project, including its relevance to the overall water treatment and management scheme for the area; alternatives considered (both alignments and technologies), and an assessment and justification of the environmental costs and benefits of the project relative to alternatives. Water Quality, Hydrology and Soils - include an assessment of water quality, hydrology and soil impacts (including impacts to groundwater) taking into account applicable NSW Government policies including applicable Water Sharing Plans. The assessment is to: • consider impacts arising from the construction of new infrastructure and changes to operation of the treatment plant, management of sludge solids and supernatant;

- assess the potential impacts to groundwater, creeks, wetlands, drainage lines and from flooding associated with the project;
- assess impacts to licenced water users and basic landholder rights; and
- include management measures to prevent, monitor or minimise impacts including precautionary discharges or overflows and subsequent impacts to nearby riparian corridors and waterways, notification systems, response capability and contingency measures.

Ecological Impacts – include a flora and fauna assessment consistent with the *Draft Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment* (DEC and DPI, 2005):

- taking into consideration aquatic and terrestrial impacts on any threatened species (particularly the *Grey-headed Flying-fox*, *Murray Cod*, *Trout Cod* and *Silver Perch*), populations, ecological communities (including the *Aquatic Ecological Community in Natural Drainage System of the Lower Murray River Catchment*), critical habitat, riparian, instream ecology, water and groundwater dependent ecosystems including consideration of the *NSW Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Policy* and any impacts to local or regional biodiversity corridors;
- with details of how flora and fauna impacts would be managed (details of any proposed screening of the river intake to minimise impacts to aquatic fauna are to be included); and
- consideration of the *NSW Offset Principles for Major Projects* (July 2013) where applicable. Sufficient certainty must be provided to demonstrate that viable and achievable options to offset impacts are available where impacts are unavoidable.

Non Indigenous Heritage – include an assessment of the potential impact on non-indigenous heritage values/items and proposed mitigation measures, consistent with the *NSW Heritage Manual* (1996). Where impacts to State or locally listed non-indigenous heritage items are proposed, a Statement of Heritage Impact must be included for these items and measures identified to mitigate and manage impacts.

Aboriginal Heritage – include an assessment of the potential impact on Aboriginal heritage values/items and proposed mitigation measures in accordance with the *Draft Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and Community Consultation* (DEC, 2005).

Human Health – the Environmental Assessment must identify any change to risk to human health, including mitigation measures and management to ensure appropriate standards are met.

Odour –include an assessment of any potential odour sources associated with construction and changes to operation and management measures to minimise any potential odour impacts to sensitive receivers.

Noise and Vibration – include an assessment of noise and vibration impacts during construction and operation and in a cumulative context with existing development. The assessment must consider the following guidelines, as relevant: *Interim Construction Noise Guidelines* (DECC 2009), *Industrial Noise Policy* (EPA, 2000) and *Road Noise Policy* (DECCW 2011).

	Traffic and Transport – include an assessment of impacts to the local and regional road and rail network, including direct impacts from construction or operational traffic. The assessment shall include details of the nature/mode of traffic generated and estimated traffic volumes and proposed transport routes. Visual Amenity – include an assessment of changes to visual amenity, with reference to surface components and vegetation removal and include proposed mitigation measures. Hazards and Risk – include an assessment of the hazards and risk including details of waste and/or chemicals handling, storage and disposal during construction and operation and identification of management measures associated with operation. This is to include details of the treatment and disposal of backwash from the treatment plant. Environmental Risk Analysis– notwithstanding the above key assessment requirements, the EIS shall include an environmental risk analysis to identify potential environmental impacts associated with the project (construction and operation), proposed mitigation measures and potentially significant residual environmental impacts after the application of proposed mitigation measures. Where additional key environmental impacts are identified, an appropriately detailed assessment of those impacts must be included
Consultation	You must undertake an appropriate and justified level of consultation with relevant parties during the preparation of the EIS, including: ▪ local, State or Commonwealth government authorities and service providers including the Department of Health, the Environment Protection Authority, the Office of Environment and Heritage, the Department of Primary Industries (including the NSW Office of Water), the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority, Roads and Maritime Services and Wagga Wagga Council; ▪ specialist interest groups, including local Aboriginal land councils; and ▪ the local community, including affected landowners. The EIS must describe the consultation process, document consultation undertaken and identify any issues raised (including where these have been addressed in the EIS).
Further Consultation after 2 years	If you do not lodge an EIS for the development within 2 years of the issue date of these DGRs, you must consult the Director-General in relation to the preparation of the EIS.