



OUT19/16085

Sally Munk
Principle Planning Officer
Industry Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment

sally.munk@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Munk

**Rushes Creek Poultry Production Farm.
Response to Submissions**

I refer to your email of 27 November 2019 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

The following advice for you to consider is from 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.

There remains residual concerns held by DPIE Water over the scale of the operations, shallow depth to water table, sensitivity of nearby water receptors and a lack of performance measures to demonstrate environmental outcomes will be achieved as presented in the EIS. A simpler water monitoring and contingency program should be initiated as part of a Water Management Plan as recommended below.

DPIE Water recommends a condition of consent for a Water Management Plan that incorporates the following elements:

- Monitor baseline groundwater quality including nutrients and pathogens from the on-site bores.
- Install an automatic flow event water sampler (or commit to manual sampling) along the two main drainage lines positioned at the discharge point of the property boundary.
- Record dates and the duration for flow events leading to offsite discharge and surface water samples collected and tested for nutrients and pathogens.
- Develop a trigger action and response plan (TARP) program around the exceedance of surface water quality parameters above the Australian and New Zealand Environment Conservation Council (ANZECC) guidelines.
- The TARP to link water quality exceedances in surface water to an evaluation of potential changes in baseline groundwater quality. The TARP should incorporate a response to any measured deterioration in groundwater quality.
- The above should be reported in the Annual Environment Report

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Francis', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Simon Francis
Senior Project Officer, Assessments
Water – Strategic Relations
10 February 2020