



Lloyd Eley-Smith, Team Leader – Water Assessments | State Significant Acceleration
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
12 Darcy Street,
Parramatta NSW 2150

Our ref: OUT21/13694

21 September 2021

Dear Lloyd

Subject: Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project – Planning Approval Pathway

Following on from our recent discussions, Water Infrastructure NSW would like to confirm that we will be submitting a State significant infrastructure (SSI) application for the Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project (SSI-10050).

The project is declared as Critical SSI pursuant to Schedule 3 of the *Water Security (Critical Needs) Act 2019* (CN Act) and the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) were issued on 28 August 2020. The CN Act is due to expire on 21 November 2021 and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project is expected to be submitted for public exhibition after this expiry date.

Notwithstanding the above, the project is deemed SSI under clause 14(1) of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* (SRD SEPP) as a water storage project having a capital investment value of more than \$30 million and is permissible without development consent. As such, planning approval for the project is subject to Part 5, Division 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*.

The change of the project from CSSI under the CN Act to SSI under the SRD SEPP will be discussed in the EIS.

We note that there is no requirement to modify the SEARs as a result of the change in planning pathway and that the EIS will be prepared in accordance with the SEARs issued on 28 August 2020.

Would you please acknowledge the above in return by writing, and advise if any further action is required by Water Infrastructure NSW. If you have any further questions, please contact Lara Hess, Director Environment and Planning, Water Infrastructure NSW (lara.hess@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mina Suh'.

Mina Suh

Planning and Environment Lead – Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project
Water Infrastructure NSW