

24 May 2024

Contact: *Nicole Wallwood and
Justine Clarke*

Our ref: *D2024/37611*

Julia Green
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Ms Green

**WaterNSW Response to Draft SEARs for Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Project
(SSI-70279722)**

WaterNSW appreciates the opportunity to provide advice regarding the SEARs for the Mount Piper to Wallerawang Transmission Project (SSI-70279722).

WaterNSW has reviewed the following in preparation of our response, noting requirements as per section 171 A of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation (2021) apply for developments located within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment:

- the EIS Scoping Report prepared by Transgrid (dated April 2024), and
- the draft SEARs for SSI-70279722.

WaterNSW also owns Lot 1 DP 567915 within the proposed transmission line easement with associated infrastructure and easements related to the Fish River Pipeline within and surrounding this lot. Transgrid have previously consulted with WaterNSW as an affected landholder.

Based on our review, WaterNSW requests the following be added/ updated in the SEARs:

To address potential risks and impacts associated with WaterNSW owned land and assets:

- A detailed assessment of potential impacts to WaterNSW's Fish River Pipeline and associated assets and infrastructure, and WaterNSW's ability to access, operate and maintain these assets. The assessment shall include:
 - proposed measures (including asset protection controls and required monitoring) to protect against impacts for all stages of construction and operation activities around the Fish River Pipeline
 - details of vibration and ground movement monitoring to be undertaken prior to and during construction – and agreed limits to avoid damage to the pipeline. WaterNSW shall also be provided a copy of the Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan for the proposed project
 - details of velocity limits and the foreseeable impacts the proposed project works will have on WaterNSW assets. Excavation methods must not trigger the maximum allowable limits set within the German Standard DIN 4150 – Part 3 – “Structural Vibration Part 3: Effects of vibration in structures”, when measured at WaterNSW assets, and

- detailed modelling to determine potential electrification of the water supply pipeline such as unacceptable coating stress voltage, low frequency induction voltages, touch/step potential and operational/ maintenance barriers.

To address potential risks to water quality and quantity within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment:

- An assessment of the water quantity and quality impacts of the project on the region's surface water resources, including the Cocks River, Pipers Flat Creek and Lake Wallace, having regard to NSW Water Quality Objectives **and ensuring the construction and operations will have a neutral or beneficial effect (NorBE) on water quality. This should also have regard for any potential groundwater dewatering required during construction and how this may impact on surface water resources.**
- A Site and Soil investigation for On-Site Wastewater System if any on-site wastewater management system is proposed (including in the Construction and Operation Phase) or adequacy of hydraulic capacity of existing sewerage infrastructure if connecting to reticulated sewerage system.
- A conceptual Soil and Water Management Plan(s) for the Construction Phase of the Project.
- A conceptual Operational and Environmental Management Plan for the Project.

It is requested that WaterNSW be listed a stakeholder in any further consultation on the project. WaterNSW looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming EIS.

WaterNSW also requests direct consultation regarding alignment of the transmission line corridor and easements to ensure our lands and assets are adequately considered and protected, and that our ability to access and operate the Fish River Pipeline and associated infrastructure is not inhibited. WaterNSW also request a copy of the final 'works as executed plans' for the transmission corridor, to ensure we are aware of the actual alignment and location of the high voltage asset (in relation to our assets) so that personnel are protected if working in this area.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Wallwood and Justine Clarke via email at environmental.assessments@waterNSW.com.au

Yours sincerely



CAMILLA EDMUNDS
Manager Environment, Sustainability, and Catchment Protection