

Lloyd Eley-Smith
Senior Case Manager | Social Infrastructure Assessments
Infrastructure Assessments | Planning & Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Eley-Smith,

Eden Cruise Ship Facility (SSI 7734) – Request to discontinue Air Quality Monitoring Program

The Eden Cruise Ship Facility (the Facility) Breakwater Wharf Extension project was approved by the Executive Director, Priority Projects Assessment (as delegate of the Minister for Planning) on 5 July 2017 and modified on the 7 November 2018 (Infrastructure Approval SSI 7734).

As required under condition D7 of the Infrastructure Approval, an Air Quality Monitoring Program was prepared for the operational phase of the project and was approved by the Secretary prior to the commencement of operation in accordance with condition D10.

Operation of the Facility commenced in September 2019 and has been ongoing through the 2019/20 season to 15 March 2020. It is noted that cruises have recently temporarily stopped visiting the Facility due to the coronavirus crisis. A curfew started on the 15 March 2020 for 30 days until 14 April 2020. Port Authority considers it unlikely that the 2019/2020 season will be resumed to the end of April.

In accordance with Condition D12 and E21 the air quality monitoring program has been implemented during the 2019/2020 season, including “monitoring of NO₂, SO₂ and PM_{2.5}... at least two days prior to the arrival of the first three cruise ship of the season, while they are at berth and for at least two days following departure”. In reality monitoring has been run continuously from commencement of operation and will continue to the end of the 2019 cruise season (April 2020). Real time monitoring data is made available on the Port Authority of NSW (Port Authority) website as required under Condition D12.

Air quality monitoring reports are available in the following webpage:

<https://www.portauthoritiesnsw.com.au/port-of-eden/port-services-facilities/eden-cruise-wharf/air-quality-monitoring-data/air-quality-monitoring-reports/>

Continuous air quality monitoring has shown that, with the exception of PM_{2.5} on the 1 November 2019, no exceedances of air quality criteria have occurred at any time during cruise ship days (noting that multiple exceedance of the PM_{2.5} have occurred during the reporting period caused by bushfires, including that on the 1 November 2019 which was also recorded at other ambient air quality monitoring stations in the region, as shown in monitoring reports). The data also showed that typically there are no significant differences in

YAMBA

PO Box 143
Yamba NSW 2464
T: 61 2 6646 2002

NEWCASTLE

PO Box 663
Newcastle NSW 2300
T: 61 2 4985 8222

SYDNEY

PO Box 25
Millers Point NSW 2000
T: 61 2 9296 4999

PORT KEMBLA

PO Box 89
Port Kembla NSW 2505
T: 61 2 4275 0100

EDEN

PO Box 137
Eden NSW 2551
T: 61 2 66461596

air quality during cruise days and non cruise days, or between air quality data at the Facility and other regional air quality monitoring stations.

Port Authority also notes that no complaints related to air quality have been received at any time during cruise ship days.

Based on the results of the air quality monitoring program, Port Authority considers that there is no reason to continue the air quality program in its current format as the data clearly shows that the local air quality is not impacted by cruise ships.

Consequently, in accordance with Condition D12, Port Authority seeks the agreement from the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to cease in April 2020 the Air Quality Operation Monitoring Program as described in Section 5.2 of the OEMP Air Quality Sub-Plan. If agreed, the OEMP Air Quality Sub-Plan (including the Air Quality Monitoring program) would be updated, with ongoing related air quality monitoring activities involving the following:

- Monitoring and follow up investigation of any complaints related to air quality (as per OEMP)
- Monitoring wind direction and speed from nearby regional monitoring stations
- Visually monitoring black/dark smoke emissions and odours on Cruise Ship days (as per OEMP)

We would appreciate your response on this matter by early April 2020 or earlier so that decommissioning of the monitoring station can be confirmed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 0488220642 or RPrieto-Curiel@portauthoritynsw.com.au should you need further information.

Yours sincerely,

Ricardo Prieto-Curiel
Senior Environmental Planner



23 March 2020