



Office of
Environment
& Heritage

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SSI 8931

Mr Glenn Snow
Director, Transport Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Keith Ng

Dear Mr Snow

F6 Extension Stage 1 State Significant Infrastructure project (SSI 8931)

I refer to the Department of Planning and Environment request for comments from the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) on the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the above project.

OEH has reviewed the EIS and provides the following comments in relation to biodiversity and flooding issues.

In relation to biodiversity, OEH notes from the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) that the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) has been applied to quantify and describe the biodiversity values of the project area and the offsets required to address any unavoidable impacts. OEH unfortunately is unable to comment on how accurately the BAM has been applied as the BAM Calculator has not been finalised by the Assessor and relevant spatial data has not been provided. OEH will be able to comment on the BDAR when these matters are addressed.

In relation to flooding, OEH has reviewed Appendix M of the EIS (the Flooding Technical Report [FTR]) and is of the view that it follows accepted floodplain risk management practice. OEH notes:

- The FTR utilises hydrologic and hydraulic models from previously undertaken assessments of the New M5 Motorway at the vicinity of the project footprint. Annexure A provides a comparison to available councils' existing studies. The models identify existing flooding characteristics and identify areas that require further detailed assessment.
- Potential impacts during the construction and operational related flood risk have been addressed by the FTR in sections 5 and 6 (and depicted in Figures 5-1 to 5-3 and 6-1 to 6-4) respectively.
- The potential impacts from climate change on flooding behaviour due to sea level rise and increased rainfall intensities have been documented by the FTR.
- The assessment proposes a Flood Management Strategy (FMS) be prepared for flood affected land prior to construction in consultation with directly affected landowners, OEH, Sydney Water and relevant councils. The main objective of the FMS is to demonstrate that existing flooding characteristics will not be exacerbated as a consequence of the project.

- The FTR outlines suitable management strategies for the construction and operational impacts. These strategies will be considered for the FMS in the detailed design phase.

OEH is satisfied that the impacts of flooding and the existing flood risk construction has been considered.

Should you have any queries regarding this advice, please contact Richard Bonner on 9995 6917 or richard.bonner@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

S. Harrison 14/12/18

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