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C1. ANALYSIS OF RECORDED RAINFALL DURING STORM OF SEPTEMBER 2018

C1.1. Overview

A severe thunderstorm hit Sydney on the afternoon of 7 September 2018 that brought heavy rainfall, hail and damaging winds across the city. Flash flooding was reported at a number of locations in Sydney, including the low point in the Robey Street Underpass. **Plate 1** is a photo that was taken during the storm which indicates that the depth of ponding at the low point could have been in the order of 0.2 to 0.3 metres.

An analysis of the rainfall that was recorded at Sydney Airport during the storm is provided in the following section.



Plate 1: Photo taken during storm of 7 September 2018 showing flooding to the low point in the Robey Street Underpass. The water level against the fence that is located to the left of the road indicates that the depth of inundation was likely to have been in the order of 0.2 to 0.3 metres. [Source: Sydney Morning Herald website]

C1.2. Analysis of Recorded Rainfall

Rainfall recorded at the Sydney Airport was obtained from the BoM for the storm which occurred in September 2018 to assess the likely depth of rainfall at Robey Street and to compare it against design rainfall depths for a range of durations.

Figure C1 at the end of this annexure shows the cumulative rainfall depth at Sydney Airport for the period between 21:00 hours on 6 September 2018 and 21:00 hours on 7 September 2018. Steady rain commenced at around 23:30 hours on 6 September 2018 but only lasted for around two hours, resulting in a total rainfall depth of just 3 millimetres. More intense rainfall commenced at around 15:30 hours on 7 September and continued through to around 20:00 hours on the same day. The total depth of rain which fell during this period amounted to 30 millimetres.

Table C1 provides a summary of maximum recorded rainfall depths during the storm of 7 September 2018 for durations ranging between 30 minutes and 6 hours, together with the corresponding AEP of the storm based on a comparison with design rainfall depths that were derived using procedures set out in both ARR 1987 and ARR 2016. **Figure C2** at the end of this annexure shows the same information plotted on a log normal graph along with curves showing the design rainfall depths for a 1 EY storm together with a range of storms with AEP's between 50 and 1 per cent.

The analysis shows that for durations of between 30 minutes and six hours the storm was equivalent to less than a 1 EY event.

TABLE C1
SUMMARY OF MAXIMUM RECORDED RAINFALL INTENSITIES DURING
7 SEPTEMBER 2018 STORM

Duration	Rainfall Intensity (mm/hour)	Equivalent Probability (ARR 1987)	Equivalent Probability (ARR 2016)
30 minutes	28.0	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
1 hour	18.8	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
1.5 hours	13.3	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
2 hours	10.9	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
3 hours	9.1	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
4.5 hours	6.7	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
6 hours	5.0	< 1 EY	< 1 EY

⁽¹⁾ The calculated probability is based on a comparison of recorded rainfall depths with design rainfall depths derived using procedures set out in *Australian Rainfall and Runoff*, 1987.

⁽²⁾ The calculated probability is based on a comparison of recorded rainfall depths with design rainfall depths derived using procedures set out in *Australian Rainfall and Runoff*, 2016.

C2. ANALYSIS OF RECORDED RAINFALL DURING STORM OF NOVEMBER 2018

C2.1. Overview

A severe thunderstorm hit Sydney on the morning of 28 September 2018 that brought heavy rainfall across the city. Flash flooding was reported at a number of locations in Sydney, including the low point in the O'Riordan Street Underpass. A video taken of the flooding to the underpass indicates that the depth of ponding at the low point could have been in the order of 0.5 metres.

An analysis of the rainfall that was recorded at Sydney Airport during the storm is provided in the following section.

C2.2. Analysis of Recorded Rainfall

Rainfall recorded at the Sydney Airport was obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology (**BoM**) for the storm which occurred in November 2018 to assess the likely depth of rainfall at O'Riordan Street and to compare it against design rainfall depths for a range of durations.

Figure C1 at the end of this annexure shows the cumulative rainfall depth at Sydney Airport for the period between 02:00 hours on 28 November 2018 and 02:00 hours on 29 November 2018. Rainfall commenced just after 05:00 hours on 28 November 2018 and the most intense period of rainfall occurred between 06:00 hours and 07:30 hours on 28 November 2018. The total depth of rain which fell during this period amounted to 30 millimetres.

Table C2 over the page provides a summary of maximum recorded rainfall depths during the storm of 28 November 2018 for durations ranging between 30 minutes and six hours, together with the corresponding AEP of the storm based on a comparison with design rainfall depths that were derived using procedures set out in both ARR 1987 and ARR 2016. **Figure C2** at the end of this annexure shows the same information plotted on a log normal graph along with curves showing the design rainfall depths for a 1 EY storm together with a range of storms with AEP's between 50 and 1 per cent.

The analysis shows that for durations of between 30 minutes and six hours the storm was equivalent to less than a 1 EY event.

TABLE C2 SUMMARY OF MAXIMUM RECORDED RAINFALL INTENSITIES DURING 28 NOVEMBER 2018 STORM

Duration	Rainfall Intensity (mm/hour)	Equivalent Probability (ARR 1987)	Equivalent Probability (ARR 2016)
30 minutes	30.4	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
1 hour	28.4	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
1.5 hours	20.9	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
2 hours	16.7	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
3 hours	12.7	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
4.5 hours	10.2	< 1 EY	< 1 EY
6 hours	8.5	< 1 EY	< 1 EY

⁽¹⁾ The calculated probability is based on a comparison of recorded rainfall depths with design rainfall depths derived using procedures set out in ARR 1987.

⁽²⁾ The calculated probability is based on a comparison of recorded rainfall depths with design rainfall depths derived using procedures set out in ARR 2016.