



PCU031438

Attention: Contact Officer  
Dept of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO 39  
Sydney 2001

Our Reference: HN00868  
Contact: Gillian Young

1<sup>st</sup> March 2011



Dear Ms Scott

**Subject: Exhibition of Modification Request for Picton Sewerage Scheme – Scheme Boundary Expansion (1997-01-15 Mod 3).**

Thankyou for your correspondence (Reference 1997-01-15 Mod 3) inviting Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority (HNCMA) to comment on the LEP Amendment proposed above.

Catchment Management Authorities are approval authorities for clearing of native vegetation under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* (NV Act), and are responsible for implementing the objectives of this Act. These include:

- “to prevent broad scale clearing unless it improves or maintains environmental outcomes, and
- to protect native vegetation of high conservation value having regard to its contribution to such matters as water quality, biodiversity, or the prevention of salinity or land degradation”

HNCMA supports activities that achieve the objects of the NV Act, and considers proposed developments should be located and designed to minimise impacts on native vegetation and the environment, with any clearing required mitigated by establishing offset areas.

Page 17 of the Picton Regional Sewage Scheme Assessment Report November 2001 states that proposed scheme changes fall under State Environment Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (Infrastructure SEPP) and that the Minister for Planning is the determining authority under the Act. Therefore an approval under the NV Act for the clearing of native vegetation as part of the proposed development is **not** required (Clause 106(3)A). **As such, HNCMA has no approval role for any clearing of native vegetation required for this development.**

The following comments and recommendations are based on application of NSW government policy and NV Act objects and principles to the proposed development. A desk top study of ‘Modification to the Picton Regional Sewage Scheme Assessment Report November 2001’ was carried out. Specifically Appendix 2 ‘Terrestrial Flora and Fauna Assessment’ was reviewed.

The following comments are given on recommended Conditions of Approval (as requested);

- HNCMA gives preference to SPC and Rising Main C as the preferred project site because this area minimises disturbance to native vegetation, in particular trees. If this site cannot be utilised due to other impacts then HNCMA gives preference to SPS A (A2) then (A1) and lastly to SPS B and Rising Main C.
- HNCMA supports all recommendations on pg 30 of the BIOSIS Terrestrial Flora and Fauna Report for incorporation into conditions of approval.

For any further inquiries please consult with Gillian Young at the Goulburn Office on Ph. 4828-6770.

Yours sincerely



Bernie Bugden  
General Manager