



Office of  
Environment  
& Heritage

DOC16/541582-1  
SSD 7698

Ms Susan Fox  
Senior Planning Officer – Waste, Industry Assessments  
Department of Planning and Environment  
susan.fox@planning.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Kelly McNicol

Dear Ms Fox

**Mayfield West Resource Recovery Facility (SSD 7698)**

I refer to your letter dated 24 October 2016, seeking comment on the Mayfield West Resource Recovery Facility (SSD 7698) located at 1a McIntosh Drive, Mayfield West. The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has undertaken a review of the EIS titled '*Environmental Impact Statement: Mayfield West Resource Recovery Facility, 1a McIntosh Drive, Mayfield West*' (including Appendices), prepared for Benedict Recycling Pty Ltd by EMM Consulting (dated October 2016). OEH's review is in relation to threatened biodiversity, Aboriginal cultural heritage, and flooding / floodplain management issues.

OEH understands that the proponent assessed the project under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects which includes the requirement to comply with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA). As part of this process the EIS must include a Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR), which assesses the impacts on threatened biodiversity. OEH confirms that the EIS contains a BAR (or equivalent – Appendix L) and I am of the opinion that the proposal has been correctly assessed and complies with the FBA.

In summary, OEH is of the opinion the EIS adequately addresses issues associated with biodiversity (including threatened species), Aboriginal cultural heritage and flooding. Further detailed comments are provided in **Attachment A**.

If you require any further information regarding this matter please contact Steve Lewer, Regional Biodiversity Conservation Officer, on 4927 3158.

Yours sincerely



25 NOV 2016

**RICHARD BATH**  
Senior Team Leader Planning, Hunter Central Coast Region  
Regional Operations

Enclosure: Attachment A

## **ATTACHMENT A: OEH REVIEW - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF MAYFIELD WEST RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY (SSD 7698)**

### **THREATENED BIODIVERSITY**

A specific requirement of the issued Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) is that biodiversity / threatened species aspects of the project are to be assessed under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects. This includes the requirement to comply with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA - OEH 2014). As part of this process the EIS must include a Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR), which assesses the impacts on threatened biodiversity. OEH is of the opinion that Appendix L 'Biodiversity Assessment' meets this requirement.

OEH has undertaken a review of Appendix L 'Biodiversity Assessment' (dated 15 September 2016) and is of the opinion that the report meets the requirements of the FBA. The report indicates that the site is highly disturbed and does not contain any remnant native vegetation. The report acknowledges that native vegetation has been planted along the bunds and drainage channels around the periphery of the site, however, these will not be cleared or impacted upon. OEH is satisfied that the assessor has shown that the subject site meets the requirements listed under Section 3.3.1.3 of the FBA (i.e. 'does not contain native vegetation') and that no further assessment is required. The report identifies that the assessment was undertaken by an accredited person under section 142B(1)(c) of the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

#### **References:**

OEH (2014) *Framework for Biodiversity Assessment*. September 2014. NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Sydney. [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/biodiversity/140675fba.pdf](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/biodiversity/140675fba.pdf)

### **ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE**

OEH has reviewed Section 7.10 (Heritage) of EMM (2016) *Environmental Impact Statement: Mayfield West Recycling Facility* prepared for Benedict Recycling Pty Ltd. Based on this review OEH is satisfied that the site is disturbed in ways that remain clear and observable. OEH agrees that items of archaeological or Aboriginal cultural heritage significance are unlikely to occur on/in the site given previous extensive ground disturbance and the previous heavy industrial use of the area. Additionally, the proposal does not involve further significant ground disturbance. OEH has no additional concerns with respect to Aboriginal cultural heritage management for this project.

### **FLOODING AND FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT**

OEH has reviewed the flooding / floodplain management component of the EIS and is satisfied that the project will have no significant impact on flooding in the vicinity.

**OEH – NOVEMBER 2016**