



Office of Water

Glenn Snow
NSW Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Contact: Tim Baker
Phone: (02) 6841 7403
Fax: (02) 6884 0096
Email: Tim.Baker@water.nsw.gov.au

26 September 2011

Our ref: ER20980
Your ref:

Attention: Toby Philp

Dear Mr Philp

Subject: DALTON POWER PROJECT – EXHIBITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I refer to your letter requesting a submission on the publicly exhibited environmental assessment for the proposed Dalton Power Project (MP10_0035). The NSW Office of Water has reviewed the documentation provided and can support the project based on consideration of the following comments and inclusion of the recommended conditions of consent in Attachment 1. The comments include:

- The Environmental Assessment (EA) provides a range of potential water supply options and water supply requirements depending on the final configuration of the project. As these options have not been finalised and no water licences or agreements with licensed providers have been obtained, this represents a significant commercial risk to the project.
- As detailed in the EA the use of an evaporation pond to store wastewater requires specific design requirements to prevent seepage of contaminants into the groundwater and potentially surface water systems. The NSW Office of Water supports the proposed use of an impermeable liner to mitigate this potential impact and would require the development of a groundwater monitoring program to NOW's requirements to monitor its effectiveness.
- The NSW Office of Water requests consultation during the development of management plans relevant to water management for both construction and operation periods.
- Based on the potential water supply options detailed in the EA it is likely that the proponent will require licenses under the *Water Act 1912* or *Water Management Act 2000* and the transfer of water entitlements prior to water extraction and use at the site.

Should further information be required please do not hesitate to contact Tim Baker on (02) 6841 7403.

Yours sincerely

Mark Mignanelli
Manager Major Projects and Assessment



NSW OFFICE OF WATER

ATTACHMENT 1

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

The NSW Office of Water requests the following conditions be included in any determination issued for the Dalton Power Project:

1. The proponent shall prepare a Water Management Plan in consultation with and to the satisfaction of the NSW Office of Water. This plan must include the following:
 - a. An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
 - b. A Surface Water Management Plan
 - c. A Groundwater Management Plan
2. The proponent must obtain relevant licensing under the *Water Act 1912* or *Water Management Act 2000* from the NSW Office of Water before commencing any works which intercept or extract groundwater.