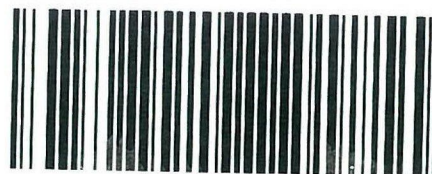




**Catchment Management
Authority**
Hawkesbury-Nepean

#6



PCU027798

Mr Kane Winwood
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31 October 2011

Subject: Second release precincts of the North West Growth Centre- water related services

The Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority (HNCMA) has briefly reviewed documentation associated with environmental assessment for the provision of water related services for the second release precincts of the North West Growth Centre.

The documentation indicates that wastewater pipelines will be constructed in areas where riparian vegetation is currently intact and in reasonable condition.

HNCMA recommends that the conditions of consent applying to this proposal emphasise

- the need to protect existing intact riparian vegetation through the use of tunnelling and boring where possible, rather than open trench excavation.
- The impacts associated with emergency relief structures and associated mitigation measures, need to be regularly reviewed and best practice operation and maintenance employed
- Riparian areas should be revegetated appropriately post construction with cleared areas required for pipeline maintenance to be located away from riparian zones where possible.

This advice reflects the principles of the *Water Management Act 2000* that:

- a) water sources, floodplains and dependent ecosystems (including groundwater and wetlands) should be protected and restored and, where possible, land should not be degraded, and
- (b) habitats, animals and plants that benefit from water or are potentially affected by managed activities should be protected and (in the case of habitats) restored, and
- (c) the water quality of all water sources should be protected and, wherever possible, enhanced, and
- (d) the cumulative impacts of water management licences and approvals and other activities on water sources and their dependent ecosystems, should be considered and minimised.

These principles are also incorporated into the four main management objectives of the Hawkesbury Nepean River Health Strategy

- Maintain the condition of river reaches where they are in natural or near natural condition
- Maintain and improve river reaches where they are in good condition
- Improve the environmental condition of the remaining river reaches
- Achieve the highest environmental and community gain for the resources invested

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely

Mr Bernie Bugden
General Manager

