



Department of Primary Industries

OUT15/13046

Mr Robert Byrne
Industry Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Robert.Byrne@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Byrne,

**Blayney Smallstock Abattoir Development (SSD_6594)
Response to exhibition of Environmental Assessment/Impact Statement**

I refer to your email dated 7 April 2015 requesting advice from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in respect to the above matter.

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The NSW Office of Water has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Blayney Small Stock Abattoir. The following key comments are provided and further detailed comments in Attachment A. Recommended conditions of approval will be provided on receipt of the additional information requested.

Key elements of the project relevant to the NSW Office of Water include the following:

- Modifications to the surface water management system including redirection of the main drainage line and creation of a new entry point to the Belubula River.
- Temporary storage of treated wastewater in an existing 11.4ML detention basin which is to be converted into a turkey's nest dam.

Comments

- An assessment is requested of the impacts on downstream properties due to the proposed drainage line diversion.
- A conceptual design is requested of the proposed constructed channel and new entry point to the Belubula River consistent with the NSW Office of Water's *"Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land"*.
- A hydrological assessment is requested to outline the proposed design flows of the constructed channel, and any impacts to flooding due to the channel diversion and building embankment within the project site and on adjacent properties.

- An assessment is requested of the impacts of the 11.4ML wastewater storage on groundwater or surface water due to seepage or dam failure/spill and necessary mitigating measures.
- Further detail is requested on the necessary connections to Cadia Valley Operations pipeline to dispose of the wastewater generated at the abattoir.

For further information please contact Tim Baker, Senior Water Regulation Officer (Dubbo Office) on 6841 7403 or at tim.baker@water.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KHolz', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Kristian Holz
Policy, Legislation and Innovation

Attachment A

Blayney Smallstock Abattoir Development (SSD_6594) Response to exhibition of EIS Additional comments by [division name]

NSW Office of Water Detailed Comments – Blayney Small Stock Abattoir EIS

- Section 6.9.5 and Figure 6.14 of the EIS provide a conceptual outline of proposed amendments to the surface water management system. This indicates the current drainage path to the Belubula River via the outflow of the existing 11.4ML detention basin and across Newbridge Rd is to be diverted via a diversion bank and constructed channel. This will result in no flows from this drainage line crossing Lot 3 in DP6158 and Lot 400 in DP1070085. Whilst the Council has requested diversion of this drainage line, the impacts of diverting flow from the downstream properties has not been assessed.
- Details of the design flows the proposed constructed channel is to accommodate and a conceptual design has not been provided. Mitigating measures are requested to be included for the riparian corridor to maintain channel stability consistent with the *NSW Office of Water's Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land*.
- Figure 6.14 proposes an extension of the spillway of the existing 0.4ML detention basin to the property boundary, however no proposal is provided on the required works and/or structures to convey the flows into the Belubula River to maintain channel stability. A conceptual plan of works for the outlet/ramp to the river is requested consistent with the *NSW Office of Water's Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land*.
- Part of the existing drainage channel on the northern side of the proposed abattoir is to be relocated further to the north (closer to the railway line) to facilitate emergency vehicle access. The hydrological impact of this alteration due to the associated narrowing of the floodplain has not been assessed. Justification for locating the building so close to the northern part of the lot which has created the need for this creek relocation is also requested.
- Disposal of the treated wastewater produced at the abattoir is reliant on Cadia Valley Operation's receiving the water via a return pipeline from CVO's proposed dewatering facility. Although the EIS indicates the pipeline is in place, the dewatering facility is yet to be constructed and no maps/diagrams have been provided of the necessary pipeline infrastructure to complete this connection. The timeline therefore for actual operation of this disposal option is not certain.
- Temporary storage of the wastewater is proposed in the existing 11.4ML detention basin which is to be converted into a turkey's nest storage to not capture overland flow. This dam will provide sufficient capacity to accommodate 22 days of generated wastewater. No assessment has been provided on the potential impacts on groundwater or surface water due to seepage or dam failure/spill and the necessary mitigating measures. Groundwater was encountered at shallow depths (3.8m) during the geotechnical investigation, hence highlighting a potential risk to groundwater.

End of Attachment A