

23 October 2015

Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

**RE: M4 East EIS**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Impact Statement of the proposed M4 East project. We have reviewed the online information and provide the following comments for your consideration.

**Sydney Water water and wastewater assets**

- We can confirm we have trunk and reticulation assets within and outside the project boundary. These assets are used to supply services to our customers as per the Sydney Water Operating Licence and regulatory requirements.
- Sydney Water reserves the right to assess, based on final project layout and construction designs prepared by the project team and or their contractors, the impacts on our assets located within the project scope, and the potential needs for adjustments funded by the project to accommodate accessibility of our pipes for operational and maintenance purposes, new pavement locations and changes to structures.
- Access to our assets will need to be retained throughout the life of the project. Consideration in regards to staging and timing will need to be considered as part of the design work and delivery of the project, to allow for shutdown and reconnection of our assets to ensure that Sydney Water maintains services to our customers in line with our Operating Licence.
- The assessment of asset adjustments can be undertaken through the Sydney Water Asset Adjustment process, which will consider the need for relocation, adjustment or protection of our assets. Additionally if assets are required to be changed, the environmental approval will need to cover any works identified that may fall outside of the project boundary, but be a result of the project works
- Any trade waste licence request will need to meet Sydney Water's requirements before approval
- The environmental approval will additionally need to consider the discharge protocols of chlorinated water due to shut down and reconnection of live Sydney Water assets that will need to be adjusted.

- Amplification of mains may be required to facilitate future growth along the development corridor. This will be assessed as adjustment applications are referred to Sydney Water for review.

### **Sydney Water stormwater assets**

Overall the approach to managing surface water impacts of the project is sound. Close consultation with Sydney Water during the detailed design, construction and operational phases of the project will be required to ensure that the objectives are met and that the impacts to Sydney Water stormwater assets is minimised, or improvements to the receiving environment can be achieved.

There are specific details relating to several locations along the project route that require Sydney Water to participate in the design, and to date communications between Sydney Water and WDA has been satisfactory to deal with these issues;

- **2.3.1 Water Quality Objectives**

Adopting the pollutant reduction targets from Strathfield Council is an acceptable strategy for the entire project. Sydney Water has recently adopted the same target limits for pollutant reduction and as many of the stormwater channels the project crosses are Sydney Water assets, these targets are consistent.

Other references to best practice pollution controls throughout the surface water chapter will require Sydney Water review during the detailed design phase.

- **4.10.3 Powells Creek Naturalisation**

Sydney Water is currently designing a naturalisation project in Powells Creek downstream of the construction site. This project is expected to be delivered in the 2016-17 financial year. Powells Creek is also listed as the only sensitive receiving environment in the EIS and as such, there needs to be adequate water quality protection measure for the construction and operational phase of the project

Channel diversion in Underwood Road, Strathfield.

A proposed concept design to divert the Sydney Water stormwater asset in Underwood street around the dive section of the project in Strathfield will required detailed assessment of catchment flooding impacts and water quality.

- **Dobroyd Canal**

The stormwater infrastructure discharging into Dobroyd canal at the north eastern end of the project is currently complicated in terms of ownership and sizing. A collaborative approach with Sydney Water and Ashfield Council should be adopted to design a solution that meets the Westconnex water quality objectives and longer term operation of the stormwater system in that location.

- **Table 5.1**

The extent of possible waterway pollution from both construction and operational activities is significant and therefore exceptional design and maintenance will be required to ensure the nominated controls are effective.

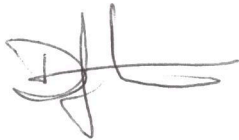
- Appendix R Groundwater

As the groundwater is proposed to be discharged into the surface water of St Lukes Canal, and this is a Sydney Water asset, comment is required. It should be noted that while the receiving environment is highly disturbed, Canada Bay Council currently extract stormwater from the canal for irrigation of playing fields.

Sydney Water is also proposing to naturalise sections of the canal downstream of the proposed discharge point. Therefore, when determining the water quality criteria for the groundwater treatment and discharge system, these downstream activities should be taken into account.

Sydney Water recommends early meetings to discuss designs and any constraint solutions that will need to be consider for the benefit of the project. If you require any further information, please contact Darryl Foster of the Urban Growth Unit on 02 8849 3512 or e-mail [darryl.foster@sydneywater.com.au](mailto:darryl.foster@sydneywater.com.au).

Yours Sincerely,



Darryl Foster  
**Manager Asset Services**

