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Our Ref: HW2011-530/43/1.001 Your Ref: SSD 9262

29 August 2018

Department of Planning and Environment Key Sites Assessments GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attention: James Groundwater

## UoN, HONEYSUCKLE CITY CAMPUS CONCEPT PROPOSAL (SSD9262)

Thank you for your letter of 30 July 2018 seeking Hunter Water's comment on the University of Newcastle Honeysuckle City Campus Concept Proposal (SSD 9262) on 16, 16A and 16B Honeysuckle Dr, 20B Wright Lane and 430 Hunter Street in the Newcastle City Council Local Government Area.

Hunter Water has reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement, which outlines the concept development application proposal comprising of new building envelopes including associated design excellence strategy and design guidelines.

Hunter Water has a role in shaping how water is used in the future and is eager to provide input to projects such as this. Hunter Water supports the Universities initiative to set policy that targets achieving formal Green Star ratings for all new buildings at a 6 Star level. For redevelopment sites such as is proposed, there is a real opportunity to showcase excellence in water efficiency, stormwater and wastewater management.

To meet Environmentally Sustainable Development requirements this project is required to 'demonstrate how the proposed development will reflect best practice sustainable building principles to improve environmental performance, including energy and water efficient design and technology and use of renewable energy.' Outlined below are the key areas that Hunter Water would like to see addressed and areas where Hunter Water can contribute.

1. Onsite Water Solutions - For new development areas, Hunter Water supports options that reduce potable water consumption, wastewater generation and storm water impacts through more efficient technology and integrated water management opportunities (water reuse, stormwater harvesting etc.) to create more sustainable and liveable communities. The sustainability masterplan outlined key measures including efficient fixtures and use of rainwater harvesting for reuse, however could be strengthened by assessing reuse opportunities such as water recycling. Hunter Water's Water Resilience and Sustainable Wastewater teams are currently undertaking a number of projects that will help identify appropriate technologies that could be implemented throughout the precinct. Hunter Water is particularly interested in the potential for an integrated solution with the Honeysuckle public domain planning and other proposed developments in the vicinity.

- 2. Integration of urban greening and water management Hunter Water supports urban greening and the benefits that can include enhanced urban amenity, healthy urban waterways and reduced urban heat effects. Onsite water solutions should be integrated with key outcomes regarding urban greening, such as providing a green canopy in the landscape design or accessible green roofs on buildings.
- 3. Water Sensitive Urban Design Best practice Water sensitive urban design appears to be identified in the sustainability masterplan and should be designed into all new streets and public open spaces and be integrated with the landscape design and 'green canopy'. This will assist achieving urban greening with reduced irrigation demand and improved stormwater quality.

Hunter Water has the opportunity to collaborate further when the concept planning is developed further. Should you have any queries regarding this information or wish to discuss it further, please contact Tony McClymont on 02 4979 9702 or by emailing tony.mcclymont@hunterwater.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

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TONY MCCLYMONT Manager Sustainable Growth