



DOC19/15011-05

Mr Tim Stuckey
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer – Resource & Energy Assessments
NSW Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Stuckey,

Re: Shoalhaven Hydro Expansion Project (Geotechnical Explorations) - Exhibition (SSI 9816)

I refer to correspondence dated 15 February 2019 requesting the NSW Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) comments and any recommended conditions of approval regarding the Shoalhaven Hydro Expansion Project (Geotechnical Explorations).

The EPA understands the proposed development involves geotechnical explorations consisting of up to 8 bore holes and ancillary works areas, with these works to comprise the initial phase of the proposed expansion of the Shoalhaven Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Scheme which is operated by Origin Energy Eraring Pty Ltd. The EPA further understands that the geotechnical investigations are proposed to be undertaken on land owned by WaterNSW and associated with the existing Kangaroo Valley and Bendeela Power Stations and water transfer operations.

The EPA has reviewed the *Shoalhaven Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Expansion - Geotechnical Investigations Environmental Impact Statement*, 7 February 2019 (the EIS) and is satisfied that the EIS addresses the EPA's concerns as detailed in previous correspondence on this matter.

The EPA advises that the Kangaroo Valley and Bendeela Hydro Electric Power Stations hold an Environment Protection License (EPL) under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* for the generation of electrical power (EPL No. 10595). The EPA notes that borehole location 8 (and potentially borehole 7 depending on final location) is situated adjacent to the Bendeela Power Station and within the licensed premises (Lot 1 DP 1129355). This location(s) falls within the premises description and therefore the proponent should be advised that activities undertaken at this location(s) will be subject to all conditions contained within EPL No. 10595, and that the EPA would be the Appropriate Regulatory Authority for activities undertaken at this location(s).

I trust this is of assistance and if you have any queries or wish to discuss these matters further, please contact Michael Heinze or myself on (02) 6229 7002 or via email to queanbeyan@epa.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Goodwin', followed by the date '12/3/19' written in blue ink.

JANINE GOODWIN
Unit Head – North Unit
NSW Environment Protection Authority

Phone 131 555

Phone +61 2 6229 7002

Fax +61 2 6229 7001

TTY 133 677

ABN 43 692 285 758

PO Box 622

Queanbeyan

NSW 2620 Australia

Level 3

11 Farrer Place

Queanbeyan NSW
2620 Australia

queanbeyan@epa.nsw.gov.au

www.epa.nsw.gov.au