

Modification of Approval

Section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

I, the Executive Director, Major Project Assessments Division of the Department of Planning, in accordance with the Instrument of Delegation issued by the Minister for Planning, on 7 June 2007, pursuant to section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* determine the modification to the approval referred to in Schedule 1 in the manner set out in Schedule 2.



Executive Director, Major Project Assessments
As delegate for the Minister for Planning

Sydney, 10 JUNE 2008

SCHEDULE 1

Project Approval:

granted by the Minister for Planning on 20 June 2007 (MP 06_0190).

For the following:

Construction and operation of the Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative - Replacement Flows Project, involving the interconnection of three existing sewage treatment plants and treating the available effluent from these plants via a new Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP) to replace the water that is currently released from Warragamba Dam for extraction and river health purposes. The project involves the construction and operation of the following key components:

- an AWTP at the St Marys STP site for the treatment of the tertiary treated effluent from Quakers Hill, Penrith and St Marys STPs. The AWTP would produce up to 50ML/day of highly treated recycled water for discharge to the Hawkesbury-Nepean River downstream of Penrith Weir, and about 8ML/day of a concentrate for discharge to the Northern Suburbs Ocean Outfall Sewer (NSOOS);
- a pipeline for the transfer of tertiary treated effluent from Penrith STP to the AWTP at the St Marys STP site;
- a pipeline for the transfer of tertiary treated effluent from Quakers Hill STP to the AWTP at the St Marys STP site;

- a pipeline for the transfer of recycled water produced by the AWTP at St Marys STP to the Penrith STP;
- discharge of the replacement flows to the Hawkesbury-Nepean River, via the Penrith STP discharge to Boundary Creek, immediately downstream of Penrith Weir;
- a pipeline for the transfer of the concentrate from the AWTP to Quakers Hill STP;
- a storage pond at Quakers Hill STP for the temporary storage of the concentrate, when the NSOOS may not be available for discharge (during periods of extended wet weather);
- transfer of the concentrate to the NSOOS via an existing pipeline from Quakers Hill STP to Seven Hills and a new pipeline between Seven Hills and Vineyard Creek at Dundas;
- balance storages and pumping stations at Penrith, Quakers Hill and St Marys STPs; and
- temporary pilot facility at St Marys STP.

Modification:

Amendments to conditions 2.11 (for the purposes of changing the alignment of the pipeline) and 3.1 (changed timing of reporting requirements). As a consequence, amendments have also been made to conditions 1.1 and 1.2.

SCHEDULE 2

The approval is modified as follows:

1. Replacing existing condition 1.1 with new condition 1.1 as follows:

- 1.1 The Proponent shall carry out the project generally in accordance with the:
- a) Major Projects Application 06_0190;
 - b) *Environmental Assessment: Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative – Replacement Flows Project* (prepared by Sydney Water Corporation and Sinclair Knight Merz dated November 2006);
 - c) *Preferred Project Report: Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative – Replacement Flows Project* (prepared by Sydney Water Corporation and Sinclair Knight Merz dated February 2007);
 - d) *Environmental Assessment Addendum. Replacement Flows Project – Cumberland Plain Woodland Area near Penrith STP* (prepared by Sydney Water Corporation and dated May 2008);
 - e) *Addendum Flora and Fauna Assessment for Proposed Modification to Pipeline Route: Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative – Replacement Flows Project* (prepared by Sinclair Knight Merz and dated 3 April 2008); and
 - f) the conditions of this approval.

2. Replacing existing condition 1.2 with new condition 1.2 as follows:

- 1.2 In the event of an inconsistency between:
- a) the conditions of this approval and any document listed from condition 1.1a) to 1.1e) inclusive, the conditions of this approval shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency; and
 - b) any of the documents listed from condition 1.1a) to 1.1e) inclusive, the most recent document shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

3. Replacing existing condition 2.11 with new condition 2.11 as follows:

- 2.11 The Proponent shall ensure that the project avoids direct impacts to *Grevillea juniperina subsp juniperina* individuals, the habitat of *Meridolum corneovirens*, *Litoria aurea* and *Miniopterus schreibersii*, or the following Endangered Ecological Communities:
- a) Cumberland Plain Woodland (with the exception of the minor impacts described in the document referred to under condition 1.1(d));
 - b) River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains; and
 - c) Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains.

4. Replacing existing condition 3.1 with new condition 3.1 as follows:

- 3.1 The Proponent shall develop a Water Quality and Aquatic Ecology Monitoring Program, in consultation with the DECC, DPI (Fisheries) and NSW Health, to monitor the impacts of the project on the Hawkesbury Nepean River. The Program shall commence prior to the operation of the project. The Program shall be undertaken in conjunction with the Hawkesbury Nepean Integrated Monitoring Framework and provide a sub-set of data which can assist in the overall management of the river system. A review of the Program must be undertaken in consultation with the DECC, DPI (Fisheries) and NSW Health after three years to determine ongoing monitoring requirements. The Program shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- a) a baseline monitoring program to be developed in consultation with DECC, DPI (Fisheries) and NSW Health. Collection of baseline data must be completed prior to any discharge from the project of treated wastewater.
- b) post-commissioning monitoring in which sampling and data collection for parameters determined as part of a) would be undertaken to:
 - i) evaluate the project's specific contribution to river health outcomes;
 - ii) evaluate the environmental impact of the project at a temporal and spatial scale; and
 - iii) compare the post-commissioning river health conditions with baseline conditions.
- c) sampling and data collection at representative sites where impacts are expected to occur (impact sites) and sites where impacts are not expected (control sites) within Warragamba River, Nepean River (upstream and downstream of the replacement flow discharge point), Hawkesbury River, South Creek (upstream and downstream of St Marys STP) and Eastern Creek (upstream and downstream of Quakers Hill STP).
- d) sampling and data collection of the replacement flow discharge and the immediate receiving environment to:
 - i) monitor the volume and temperature of the replacement flow;
 - ii) characterise and quantify the type, concentration and load of constituents being discharged into the Hawkesbury Nepean River;
 - iii) determine the area of impact for the replacement flow discharge including hydrological changes;
 - iv) quantify changes in the quality (including toxicity) of the receiving waters at the discharge point, with specific reference to phytoplankton, aquatic vegetation (floating and submerged), macro-invertebrates, fish, nutrients, other physico-chemical parameters and pathogens; and
 - v) a mechanism for the supply of data and results from the Program, including comparison of baseline and post-commissioning data, both on request and at agreed milestones, to DECC, DPI (Fisheries), NSW Health and the Director-General.
- e) should any signs of water quality deterioration be detected as a result of the project, the Proponent shall develop and implement management strategies and/or mitigation measures to minimise any potential adverse impacts on river health.

A report providing the results of the monitoring program and any additional mitigation measures being implemented by the Proponent shall be submitted to the Director-General within the following timeframes:

- a) baseline conditions are to be reported within four months of project commissioning;
 - b) operational conditions are to be reported within four months after collection of 12 months of operational data and once a year for every year thereafter for the life of the monitoring program or as otherwise agreed with the Director-General.
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