

Mr Scott Jeffries  
Director, Major Infrastructure Assessments  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001  
NSW



Attention: Ingrid Ilias

Dear Mr Jeffries

**Re: Modification to Minister's approval for the Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative - Replacement Flows Project (MP 06\_0190) – Condition of Approval 2.11**

I refer to the Minister for Planning's approval for the above major project under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 granted on 20 June 2007.

As advised previously Sydney Water is seeking a modification of the Minister's approval for Condition of Approval (CoA) 2.11. This is because further design work on the concentrate storage pond at Quakers Hill STP has identified an increased footprint. The adoption of this increased footprint would require the clearing of some 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> of River-Flat Eucalypt Forest community.

This clearing would be inconsistent with CoA 2.11 which requires that the Project not *directly impact* threatened species and endangered ecological communities such as River-Flat Eucalypt Forest and the Cumberland Plain Woodland.

The purpose of this letter is to request a modification to CoA 2.11 of the Minister's approval for the Replacement Flows Project. Sydney Water's proposed modification and the potential impact of the revised concentrate storage pond is described and assessed in the attached Environmental Assessment Addendum. The assessment concluded that the revised impact would be minor and justified.

Sydney Water would appreciate the Department's early consideration of this request for a modification of CoA 2.11 to allow for the clearing of approximately 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> of River-Flat Eucalypt Forest.

The current wording of Condition 2.11 is as follows:

*"The Proponent shall ensure that the project avoids the direct impact 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 Environmental Assessment Addendum –Cumberland Plain Woodland near Penrith STP, Sydney Water, May 2008);*
- b) River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains; and*
- c) Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains."*

Sydney Water suggests the following modification (**in bold**) to Condition 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 *Environmental Assessment Addendum –Cumberland Plain Woodland near Penrith STP, Sydney Water, May 2008*);
- b) *River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains* (**with the exception of the minor impacts described in the *Flora and Fauna Assessment – River-Flat Eucalypt Forest at Quakers Hill STP, Sydney Water, August 2008***); and
- c) *Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains*.

We understand that the fee associated with this modification request is \$750. Please find attached a cheque for this amount.

If you require additional information or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Dr Sue Bowen on 9350 4507.

Yours sincerely



Judi Hansen  
General Manager Sustainability

#### **Attachments**

Environmental Assessment Addendum - Replacement Flows Project, River-flat Eucalypt Forest area near the Quakers Hill concentrate storage pond