

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



Attention: Ingrid Ilias

Dear Mr Jeffries *Scott*

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 further design and feasibility work on the concentrate storage pond at Quakers Hill STP has identified the need for an increased footprint. This requires the clearing of three mature Grey Box (*Eucalyptus mollucana*), which form part of the Cumberland Plain Woodland community. These trees were not identified in the previous modification for the concentrate storage pond.

The purpose of this letter is to request a modification to CoA 2.11 of the Minister's approval for the Replacement Flows Project. An Environmental Assessment Addendum is attached for the Department's consideration. The assessment describes and assesses the proposed modification. The assessment concludes that the modified 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 the three Grey Box trees.

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 document referred to under condition 1.1(d));*
- b) River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains (with the exception of the impacts described in the documents referred to under condition 1.1(g)). The Proponent is required to prepare a Vegetation Offset Strategy, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Climate Change, that establishes, conserves and maintains at least 1.2 hectares of the endangered ecological community River-flat Eucalypt Forest in an area that creates or enhances connections between existing remnants either within the site or in close proximity (such as along Breakfast Creek). The Vegetation Offset Strategy shall be submitted to, and approved by, the Director-General prior to construction works commencing on the concentrate storage pond within the Quakers Hill STP site. The Vegetation Offset Strategy is required to be implemented within*

- 12 months of the commencement of construction of the concentrate storage pond; and
- c) *Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains.*"

Sydney Water suggests the following modification (**in bold**) to Condition 2.11:

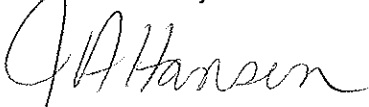
The Proponent shall ensure that the project avoids the direct impact to Grevillea juniperina subsp juniperina individuals, the habitat of Meridolum carneovirens, Litoria aurea and Miniopterus schreibersii, or the following Endangered Ecological Communities:

- a) *Cumberland Plain Woodland (with the exception of the minor impacts described in the document referred to under condition 1.1(d) **and the Environmental Assessment Addendum for the Cumberland Plain Woodland community near the Quakers Hill concentrate storage pond**);*
- b) *River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains (with the exception of the impacts described in the documents referred to under condition 1.1(g)). The Proponent is required to prepare a Vegetation Offset Strategy, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Climate Change, that establishes, conserves and maintains at least 1.2 hectares of the endangered ecological community River-flat Eucalypt Forest in an area that creates or enhances connections between existing remnants either within the site or in close proximity (such as along Breakfast Creek). The Vegetation Offset Strategy shall be submitted to, and approved by, the Director-General prior to construction works commencing on the concentrate storage pond within the Quakers Hill STP site. The Vegetation Offset Strategy is required to be implemented within 12 months of the commencement of construction of the concentrate storage pond; 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 the proposed modification further, please contact Tanya Coates, A/Senior Environmental Scientist on 9350 5263.

Yours sincerely



Judi Hansen
General Manager Sustainability

26 11.08

Attachments

Environmental Assessment Addendum for Cumberland Plain Woodland community near the Quakers Hill Concentrate Storage Pond (Nov 2008)