



NSW GOVERNMENT  
**Department of Planning**

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Mr John Neely  
Manager Bayswater Power Station  
Macquarie Generation  
Private Mail Bag 2  
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Our ref: 06\_0259  
Your ref:

Dear Mr Neely

**Low Pressure Water Pumping Station, Bayswater Power Station, Hunter River,  
Singleton Local Government Area (Application: 06\_0259)**

I refer to your request for Director-General's requirements for the abovementioned proposal. The Director-General's Environmental Assessment Requirements for the abovementioned project are attached, pursuant to section 75F(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Under section 75F(3) of the Act, the Director-General may alter or supplement these requirements if necessary in light of any additional information that may be provided prior to the proponent seeking approval for the proposal.

The Environmental Assessment should be prepared using valid and accepted technical and scientific tools and methodologies, focussing on key environmental impacts and robust mitigation measures to address potential impacts from the project. You should also ensure that you consult with the Department prior to submission of a draft Environmental Assessment to determine:

- fees applicable to the application;
- consultation and public exhibition arrangements that will apply; and
- number and format (hard-copy and/or CD-ROM) of the Environmental Assessments that will be required.

Once you have lodged the Environmental Assessment, the Department will consult with the relevant authorities to determine the adequacy of the Environmental Assessment. Following this review period the Environmental Assessment will be made publicly available for a minimum period of 30 days.

You should keep the contact officer for this project, Scott Jeffries ((02) 9228 6426 or [scott.jeffries@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:scott.jeffries@planning.nsw.gov.au)), up to date with the progress of preparation of the Environmental Assessment, and seek clarification of any issues that may be unclear or may arise during this process.

Yours sincerely

22.10.06

Chris Wilson  
**Executive Director**  
As delegate for the Director-General

**LOW PRESSURE WATER PUMPING STATION, BAYSWATER POWER STATION, HUNTER RIVER,  
SINGLETON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS UNDER PART 3A OF THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979**

<b>Project</b>	Upgrade of the existing Bayswater power station to include a new low pressure water pumping station on the Hunter River, and associated infrastructure, to improve the extractive supply of water from the Hunter River for the Bayswater and Liddell power stations
<b>Site</b>	Lot 91 DP 234544, Lot 1 DP 616024 and Lot 110 DP 625973
<b>Proponent</b>	Macquarie Generation
<b>Date of Issue</b>	22 October 2006
<b>Date of Expiration</b>	22 October 2008
<b>General Requirements</b>	<p>The Environmental Assessment must be prepared to a high technical and scientific standard and must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an executive summary;</li> <li>• a description of the proposal, including construction, operation, and staging;</li> <li>• an assessment of the environmental impacts of the project, with particular focus on the key assessment requirements specified below;</li> <li>• justification for undertaking the project with consideration of the benefits and impacts of the proposal;</li> <li>• a draft Statement of Commitments detailing measures for environmental mitigation, management and monitoring for the project; and</li> <li>• certification by the author of the Environment Assessment that the information contained in the Assessment is neither false nor misleading.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Assessment Requirements</b>	<p>The Environmental Assessment must include assessment of the following key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Strategic Planning</b> – the Environmental Assessment must provide a strategic assessment of the proposal, including a strategic justification of the need, scale, scope and location for the project, including the implications for the Bayswater and Liddell power stations should the project not proceed.</li> <li>• <b>Surface Water Management</b> – the Environmental Assessment must include sufficient details to contextualise the project within the context of relevant current water licences/ approvals and the requirements of those licences/ approvals. In this regard, the Environmental Assessment should provide information, developed in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources that reflects the general scope and outcomes of the hydrological for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ impact on flows immediately downstream of the pumping station at various inflows and pumping rates;</li> <li>◦ impact on in-stream storage and storage levels in the vicinity of the pumping station at various inflows and pumping rates;</li> <li>◦ appropriateness of automatic trigger (ie 1500 ML/d at Jerrys Plains for 12 hours) and determination of suitable pumping rates to maintain 50% of inflows below the pumping station;</li> <li>◦ consideration of step up and step down procedures to moderate variations in the flow below the pumping stations; and</li> <li>◦ emergency procedures to stop pumping should any of the licence conditions be likely to be breached.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note that these matters are not required for assessment of this particular project, but should be included in the Environmental Assessment to provide a complete and transparent overview of related assessment processes.</i></p> <p>The Environmental Assessment must also indicate how the Proponent will monitor the volume and rate of water extraction through the project</p> <li>• <b>Erosion and Sedimentation Control, Riparian Zone Management</b> – the Environmental Assessment must include an assessment of the potential erosion and sedimentation impacts of the project during construction, and demonstrate the application of best environmental practice to mitigate and manage these impacts.</li> </li></ul>

	<p>The Environmental Assessment must also reflect a design philosophy of minimising impacts on the riparian zone. The Environmental Assessment must specifically address the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ avoidance of activities and works that may detrimentally affect the flow of waters;</li> <li>◦ minimisation/ mitigation of potential for bed or bank instability;</li> <li>◦ minimisation of any erosion or scour of riparian zones or the bed/ bank;</li> <li>◦ minimisation of soil and vegetation disturbance; and</li> <li>◦ implementation of construction areas and works access points outside the riparian zone where possible.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ecological Impacts</b> - the Environmental Assessment must include an ecological impact assessment, prepared in accordance with the DEC's <i>Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment</i>. The Environmental Assessment must clearly indicate what design and operational measures have been or will be applied to the project to minimise potential ecological impacts, and details of any compensatory measures to off-set unavoidable impacts.</li> <li>• <b>General Environmental Risk Analysis</b> – notwithstanding the above key assessment requirements, the Environmental Assessment must include an environmental risk analysis to identify potential environmental impacts associated with the project (construction and operation), proposed mitigation measures and potentially significant residual environmental impacts after the application of proposed mitigation measures. Where additional key environmental impacts are identified through this environmental risk analysis, an appropriately detailed impact assessment of the additional key environmental impact(s) must be included in the Environmental Assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>Consultation Requirements</b>	<p>You must undertake an appropriate and justified level of consultation with the following parties during the preparation of the Environmental Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSW Department of Environment and Conservation;</li> <li>• NSW Department of Natural Resources;</li> <li>• Singleton and Muswellbrook Shire Councils; and</li> <li>• the local community.</li> </ul> <p>The Environmental Assessment must clearly indicate issues raised by stakeholders during consultation, and how those matters have been addressed in the Environmental Assessment.</p>
<b>Deemed refusal period</b>	<p>Under clause 8E(2) of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i>, the applicable deemed refusal period is 60 days from the end of the proponent's environmental assessment period for the project.</p>