

**Our Ref: C20/99**

25 February 2020

Rose-Anne Hawkeswood  
Senior Environmental Assessment Officer  
Energy & Resources  
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Dear Ms Hawkeswood,

**RE: Port Kembla Gas Terminal Modification 1 (SSI 9471 MOD 1) – Response to Submissions**

DPI Fisheries, a division of NSW Department of Primary Industries, provides the following comment on the Response to Submissions for Port Kembla Gas Terminal, Modification 1.

At the environmental assessment stage of this modification, DPI Fisheries expressed concern about the uncertainty of potential impact from the entrainment of aquatic organisms and plankton within the water intake system and requested further analysis of this information.

In response to this request, the assessment refers to findings of the environmental impact assessment work undertaken as part of the Sydney desalination plant. However, the reference provided to this information is not correct and the Department has no way of verifying the claims made and how the desalination plant context relates to this situation (i.e. did the desal EIS assess a similar water intake structure or did it include mechanisms such as band screens to limit the uptake of plankton and other aquatic organisms?)

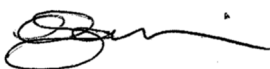
DPI Fisheries acknowledges the information in the EIS for this proposal which states that the fish and invertebrate biodiversity within the inner harbour of Port Kembla Harbour (being a constructed environment) has a lower biodiversity than the outer harbour. This information, along with a brief description of the local habitats, consideration of the depth of the outlet structures and comparison of intake flow velocities to those of the Sydney desal plant are used to state that there would only be some limited not significant impact to marine biota from entrainment in the water intake structure. While this might be the case, the information provided does not accurately quantify this in a local context.

Given the operation of this facility over time, if there was potential for some impact to marine organisms from entrainment it would be good to know what this impact is and ascertain whether any further mitigation measures could be required to minimise impact.

Therefore, DPI Fisheries recommends that monitoring of the of entrainment of the plankton, fish and invertebrate communities around the FSRU site is conducted to quantify the level of impact, and determine whether any further mitigation measures are required.

If you any further information regarding this comment, please contact me on 4222 8342.

Yours sincerely,



**Carla Ganassin**  
Senior Fisheries Manager, Coastal Systems