OUT21/9387

Fadi Shakir
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Mr Fadi

Kamay Ferry Wharf Project (SSI 10049) –
Environmental Assessment

I refer to your email of 12 July 2021 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water and the Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) about the above matter.

Transport for New South Wales is seeking approval to reinstate the ferry wharves at La Perouse and Kurnell in Botany Bay, Sydney. The project would allow for an alternative connection between La Perouse and Kurnell. The project would reinstate the two ferry wharves in Botany Bay that were damaged during a storm in 1974, which allow ferry service between La Perouse and Kurnell.

DPIE – Water and NRAR provide several recommendations relating to groundwater take, impacts and management, which are provided **Attachment A**.

Any further referrals to DPIE Water and NRAR can be sent by email to landuse.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au. or to the following coordinating officer within DPIE Water:

Simon Francis – Senior Project Officer
E: simon.francis@dpie.nsw.gov.au
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Yours sincerely

Simon Francis
Senior project Officer, Assessments, Knowledge Division
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment: Water
11 August 2021

Attachment A

Detailed advice to DPIE Planning & Assessment regarding the Kamay Ferry Wharf Project (SSI 10049) – Environmental Assessment

1.0 Groundwater Take, Impacts and Management

1. Pre-approval Recommendations:

The Proponent should be required to:

a. Identify the predicted groundwater inflow volume generated by the construction activities, and report on whether the groundwater take is less than the 3ML licensing exemption offered under the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018, or a licence is required otherwise.

   A list of possible exemption that may apply are found in Schedule 4 of the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018.

b. Describe how groundwater take will be monitored, recorded, and reported.

c. Provide a statement against the 'minimal impact considerations' as required by the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy (2012).

Explanation

Groundwater de-watering may be required for the car park and utility excavations at the La Perouse site. Inflows are expected to be small and should be short term. Water take should be appropriately licenced unless a Water Access Licence (WAL) exemption applies (as de-watering inflows are expected to be low, the WAL exemption for taking 3ML or less of groundwater may apply, depending if water will be used). No de-watering is specifically mentioned in the Kurnell site but it is acknowledged that the groundwater levels are close to the surface.

Within the shoreline ridge, groundwater level is expected to be shallow and it is likely that groundwater will be encountered during construction. The proponent is required to estimate the annual volume of groundwater take from the relevant water source and provide the details of how they are going to monitor and keep record of their take during construction. In addition, a groundwater impact assessment is required regardless of volume or any licencing exemptions that may or may not apply for the required dewatering on the site.

2. Post-approval Recommendations:

a. As per recommendation 1b above, the Proponent must obtain a Water Access Licence (WAL) under the *Water Management Act 2000* prior to any water take, unless exemptions apply. A list of possible exemption that may apply are found in Schedule 4 of the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018.

b. The Proponent should be required to implement a soil and water quality monitoring and Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) management plan.

Explanation

The pile structures for both the La Perouse and Kurnell wharves will extend through sand deposits that have a high probability of occurrence for ASS. Any disturbance of these sediments results in a risk of oxidising and mobilising these ASS and causing contamination of the nearby watercourses and aquifers. In addition, there is potential for organic contamination around the La Perouse project area by drilling into the Botany Sands aquifer. DPIE agrees that the groundwater contamination risk to be minor since the connection will be temporary and local during pile construction. However, soil and water quality monitoring is required to identify and manage any contamination if it does occur.

End Attachment A