

Our ref: DOC21/836833
Senders ref: SSD-10450

Ms Emma Barnett
Planning and Assessment Group
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Ms Barnett

Subject: EES comments on Environmental Impact Statement for the Padstow Resource Recovery Facility – 81 Gow Street, Padstow – SSD-10450

Thank you for your email of 13 September 2021 requesting advice on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this State significant development.

The Environment, Energy and Science Group (EES) has reviewed the EIS and provides the following recommendations and comments on site landscaping and habitat improvement.

The EIS states that “landscaping would be provided at the site frontage as shown in the Landscape Plan provided” (page viii) but no Landscape Plan appears to have been provided. It is unclear where planting at the site frontage is to occur.

Table 4.3 in the EIS implies EES’s comments provided in the request for input on the Secretary’s environmental assessment requirements (SEARs), which relate to a site landscape plan/ landscaping/planting, are addressed in Section 8.4 of the EIS. However, Section 8.4 does not address site landscaping and planting. Section 8.4.1 only states “there is no vegetation present on site as the site is fully developed and is covered in a concrete hardstand”. The RtS should confirm if a landscaping plan is to be provided for the frontage of the site as stated in the EIS and will address EES’s recommendation from its SEARs submission that the plan:

- includes details on the native vegetation community (or communities) and native plant species that once occurred in this locality
- specifies that any landscaping will use a diversity of local provenance species (trees, shrubs and groundcovers) from the native vegetation community (or communities) that once occurred on the site to improve biodiversity
- includes a list of local provenance species (trees, shrubs and groundcovers) to be used in the site landscaping
- uses advanced sized trees, providing sufficient area/space to allow any planted trees to grow to maturity on the site.

If any landscaping is proposed on site it is recommended a condition of consent is included to prepare and implement a landscape plan and the plan includes details on:

- a. the type, species, size, quantity and location of trees***
- b. the species, quantity and location of shrubs and groundcover plantings***
- c. the plan includes details on the native vegetation community (or communities) and native plant species that once occurred in this locality and demonstrates that the plant species consist of local provenance***
- d. a list of local provenance species to be used***

- e. the quantity and location of plantings*
- f. the pot size of the trees to be planted*
- g. the area/space required to allow the planted trees to grow to maturity*
- h. plant maintenance regime. The planted vegetation must be regularly maintained and watered for 12 months following planting. Should any plant loss occur during the maintenance period the plants should be replaced by the same plant species*
- *Any planting/ landscaping on the site or street associated with the SSD shall use a diversity of local provenance native trees, shrubs and groundcover species (rather than exotic species or non-local native species) from the relevant native vegetation community that once occurred in this locality.*
- *Tree planting shall use advanced and established local native trees with a minimum plant container pot size of 100 litres, or greater for local native tree species which are commercially available. Other local native tree species which are not commercially available may be sourced as juvenile sized trees or pre-grown from provenance seed.*
- *Enough area/space is provided to allow the trees to grow to maturity.*

EES requests that it not be assigned a consultation role in the conditions of consent unless EES has agreed to the role and the condition. If you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Janne Grose, Senior Conservation Planning Officer on 02 8837 6017 or at janne.grose@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely



20/10/21

Susan Harrison

**Senior Team Leader Planning
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