

OUT19/12283

Michael Young  
Planning and Assessment Group  
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Mr Young

**Coffs Harbour Bypass (SSI 7666) –  
EIS Exhibition**

I refer to your email of 6 September 2019 to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) – Water about the above matter. The following advice for you to consider is from DPIE –Water and the NSW Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR).

**DPIE – Water and NRAR**

**Prior to approval**

- Consideration should be given to line the Gately's Road tunnel or refine the assessment to evaluate alternative preventative or remedial solutions regarding the quantum of water take. Ongoing groundwater flows must not exceed 1L/s per kilometre. Further detail regarding this recommendation is provided in **Attachment A**.
- The project must obtain the necessary Water Access Licenses prior to commencement of works.
- The proponent should confirm that works on waterfront land (particularly major instream works and proposed watercourse diversions) will be designed in accordance with the Guidelines for Controlled Activities (2012) for Works on Waterfront Land <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/licensing-trade/approvals/controlled-activities>. This includes, but is not limited to the following:
  - In-stream works
  - Outlet structures
  - Riparian corridors
  - Vegetation Management Plan
  - Watercourse crossings

**Post Approval**

- The detailed design regarding works on waterfront land should be reviewed and assessed by NRAR.
- DPIE Water should be consulted during the further development of the Groundwater Management Plan.
- DPIE Water should be consulted with outcomes from further proposed impact assessment of bore number GW068986 (at Gately's Road Tunnel), including enactment of any make good provisions.
- Any groundwater used for construction purposes should be appropriately licenced.

Any further referrals to DPIE – NRAR & Water can be sent by email to:  
[landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landuse.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

Any further referrals to DPI & Crown Lands can be sent by email  
to: [dpi.cabinet@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dpi.cabinet@dpi.nsw.gov.au) & [lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lands.ministerials@industry.nsw.gov.au) respectively.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Francis', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Simon Francis  
Acting Manager, Assessments  
**DPIE Water – Strategic Relations**  
25 November 2019

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For recent assessments of the impact of road tunnels on groundwater ingress, RMS and DPIE-Water have established a threshold of 1 L/s per kilometre of tunnel to trigger a consideration that the tunnel be lined, or subject to a more refined assessment that could entertain other preventative or remedial solutions.

In this case, further consultation is needed with respect to the long term discharge volume from the Gately's Road Tunnel. Whilst the Roberts Hill and Shepard's Lane Tunnel are modelled to discharge less than 1 L/s per km, being 0.65 L/s per km (0.123 L/s over 190m) and 0.71 L/s per km (0.2558 L/s over 360m) respectively, the Gately's Road Tunnel is modelled to discharge 1.415 L/s per km (0.6366 L/s over 450 m). Despite this modelling there has been no proposal to line Gately's Road Tunnel.