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16 April 2019

Contact: Juri Jung Telephone: 98652503 Our ref: D2019/36424

Tatsiana Bandaruk Environmental Assessment Officer Resource and Energy Assessments | Planning Services Department of Planning & Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Bandaruk

Springvale Water Treatment Project (SSD 7592) MOD3

I refer to your e-mail dated 14 March 2019 inviting WaterNSW's to provide advice on the Modification Report for the above modification application. WaterNSW appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the report.

WaterNSW notes that the report predicts negligible increases in salinity in the Thompsons Creek Reservoir (TCR) due to storage of filtered mine water in the TCR, and Coxs River due to the environmental flows from TCR during the Interim Water Management Strategy (IWMS) period.

WaterNSW does not object to this modification, considering overall improvements in the water quality of the Coxs River catchment due to the cessation of high salinity mine water discharges from LDP009. WaterNSW considers that a temporary increase of salinity (10 μ S/cm) in the Coxs River (at the confluence with Pipers Flat Creek) is only negligible and notes that it will decrease through the progressive commissioning of reverse osmosis modules.

WaterNSW also notes that the water quality monitoring frequency of TCR and the upper Coxs River is not clear in the report and requests clarification on the monitoring frequency of TCR and the upper Coxs River. WaterNSW also requests that any water quality monitoring results of TCR and the Coxs River at the confluence with Pipers Flat Creek that exceed the predicted values be reported to WaterNSW during the IWMS period.

It is further requested that WaterNSW remain as a stakeholder for the proposal and any updates to relevant plans. WaterNSW would appreciate having an additional opportunity to comment on the proposed modification as the assessment progresses.

If you wish to discuss this letter further, please contact Juri Jung on 9865 2503 or e-mail at <u>environmental.assessments@waternsw.com.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

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Clay Preshaw Manager Catchment Protection