

Comment by NSW Office of Water

The NSW Office of Water acknowledges the proponent's suggestion to require the development of a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) prior to the issue of *any* occupation certificate (as opposed to a *final* occupation certificate).

However, as stated at draft condition 16 (a) (1), the VMP is required to outline the details and measures to protect riparian vegetation during construction. This is consistent with the recently revised *Guidelines for Vegetation Management Plans on Waterfront Land* (Office of Water, July 2012). This guideline has replaced the 2008 guideline referenced in the draft conditions.

The Office of Water recommends that a Vegetation Management Plan be required under condition 16 prior to construction commencing to ensure that appropriate protection and management measures are in place.

Alternatively, the Department of Planning & Infrastructure could consider requiring the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) required under draft condition 12 (d) to include the information currently required in draft condition 16 (a) (1). If this option is preferred by the Department, it should ensure that the VMP is consistent with, and continues on from the CEMP.

For further information please contact Janne Grose, Planning and Assessment Coordinator (Penrith office) on 4729 8262, or at: Janne.Grose@water.nsw.gov.au.

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