

Director-General's Requirements

Section 75F of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Application number	MP09_0189
Project	<p>Concept Plan Application: construction, operation and maintenance of drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure to service the West Dapto Urban Release Area and adjacent growth areas, including the following key components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ new trunk pipelines for drinking water and wastewater; ▪ new pumping stations for drinking water and wastewater and upgrades to existing pumping stations; ▪ transfer of wastewater flows from the new growth areas to Wollongong or Shellharbour Sewage Treatment Plants for treatment and either reuse or ocean discharge; ▪ potential amplification and / or upgrades to Wollongong and Shellharbour Sewage Treatment Plants; and ▪ at least one and potentially two new water reservoirs. <p>Project Application: to construct infrastructure related to the initial release Precincts (e.g. Kembla Grange, Sheaffes/Wongawilli) to be identified in the Environmental Assessment.</p>
Location	The West Dapto Release Area is located wholly in the Wollongong LGA, however some components of the project are located in the Shellharbour LGA to the South.
Proponent	Sydney Water Corporation
Date issued	24 August 2010
Expiry date	24 August 2012
General requirements	<p>The Environmental Assessment (EA) must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ an executive summary; ▪ a detailed description of the project including construction methods, location and alignment of project components, operation details including treatment technology and water quality standards to be applied, means of minimising wet weather infiltration, water demand management measures and interfaces with existing sewage treatment infrastructure, energy requirements and any staging. This should include a discussion on the uncommitted capacity of the Wollongong and Shellharbour Sewage Treatment Plants and their capacity to serve the proposed development; ▪ consideration of any relevant statutory provisions including the consistency of the project with the objects of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> and permissibility; ▪ an assessment of the environmental impacts of the project, with particular focus on the key assessment requirements specified below; ▪ a draft Statement of Commitments detailing measures for environmental mitigation, management and monitoring for the project; ▪ justification for undertaking the project with consideration of the environmental, social and economic benefits and impacts of the proposal; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ certification by the author of the Environmental Assessment that the information contained in the Assessment is neither false nor misleading.
Key issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic and Project Justification – the Environmental Assessment shall clearly outline the strategic context of the project, having regard to existing and future development of West Dapto. Discuss how the project relates to relevant strategic and statutory planning documents including the following: the <i>Illawarra Regional Strategy</i> (2007); the <i>West Dapto Release Area Review Planning and Infrastructure Report</i> (Growth Centres Commission, 2008); the <i>Sydney Water Integrated Servicing Strategy</i>, the <i>Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Study and Strategic Plan</i> (March 2006) the <i>Illawarra Regional Environmental Plan No. 1</i>, and relevant local environmental plans including <i>draft Wollongong Local Environmental Plan (West Dapto) 2009</i>. The Environmental Assessment must describe the need for and objectives of the project; alternatives considered (including an assessment of the environmental costs and benefits of the project relative to alternatives) and provide justification for the preferred project. ▪ Water Quality, Hydrology and Soils – the Environmental Assessment shall include an assessment of water quality impacts arising from the construction and operation of the project taking into account applicable NSW Government policies. With respect to construction, risks associated with laying pipelines, including across watercourses, acid sulphate soils, salinity, erosion and sedimentation controls and management of any discharges from the project to prevent impacts to nearby watercourses, groundwater and water bodies should be addressed. Potential impacts to riparian areas should consider the <i>Riparian Corridor Management Study</i> (DIPNR 2004). The EA should include an assessment of the potential flood risks associated with the project including a risk screening of proposed water infrastructure development areas against the benchmarks identified in the <i>Draft NSW Coastal Planning Guideline: Adapting to Sea Level Rise</i> (DOP, 2009). The assessment should include the full range of flood events including probable maximum flood and proposed mitigation measures with respect to operation. Details on the impacts and management of wastewater and infrastructure must be addressed, including frequency and volume of overflow for dry and wet weather and pollutant load, the quality of the treated wastewater in dry and wet weather, impacts from effluent discharge from Wollongong and or the Shellharbour Sewage Treatment Plants, particularly beyond currently approved levels; and identification of wet weather effluent storage requirements. Assess appropriate wastewater treatment technology for the removal/reduction of key pollutants and consider options to reduce readily bio-available forms of nutrients. Demonstrate how wastewater discharged to waterways will meet <i>ANZECC 2000</i> water quality criteria for relevant chemical and no-chemical parameters. The proposal must be designed to avoid direct discharge impacts on ecologically significant areas and sensitive ecosystems. ▪ Human Health – the Environmental Assessment should address the human health impacts arising from the waste water infrastructure and processes including effluent disposal. The assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water</i> (NHMRC, 2008).

- **Flora and Fauna** - The Environmental Assessment should include a flora and fauna impact assessment taking into consideration impacts on any threatened species, populations, ecological communities and/or critical habitat and any relevant recovery plan in accordance with the *Guidelines for Threatened Species Assessment* (DEC & DPI, 2005) and with consideration to the *Illawarra Escarpment and Coastal Plain - Bioregional Assessment* (DEC July 2003). This assessment shall include a description of actions to avoid impact in the first instance and then mitigate impacts or compensate for unavoidable impacts. The EA should address key threatening processes, justify the need for clearing any vegetation and/ or habitat features and include an evaluation of potential impacts on waterways, aquatic ecosystems or riparian zones, including any in stream stormwater basins, potential for weed infestation and impacts to fish passage. Offsets should be considered for clearing of native vegetation consistent with "improve or maintain principles". Sufficient details must be provided to demonstrate the availability of viable and achievable options to offset the impacts of the project. Where the proposal would be located adjacent to DECCW estate, the EA must identify management implications on DECCW estate from edge effects such as weed and pest management consistent with the *Guidelines for Developments Adjoining DEC Land* and identify all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise impact.
- **Indigenous and Non-indigenous Cultural Heritage Impacts** – the Environmental Assessment shall include an assessment of indigenous and non-indigenous heritage values that may be impacted by the project with details on any subsurface archaeological investigations undertaken for potential archaeological deposits. Consideration should be given to the significance of the impacts of the project and any mitigation measures. The assessment must address the information and consultation requirements of the draft *Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment and Community Consultation* (DEC, 2005).
- **Air Quality**– the Environmental Assessment shall include an assessment of the air quality impacts associated with the operation of the project, particularly where operation is required beyond currently approved levels at the Wollongong and Shellharbour Sewage Treatment Plants, with specific reference to odour impacts. The analysis should be prepared in accordance with the *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW* (DEC, 2005), *Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW* (DEC, 2001) and *Technical Notes: Draft Policy: Assessment and Management of Odour from Stationary Sources in NSW* (DEC, 2001).
- **Noise and Vibration** – the Environmental Assessment shall include an assessment of noise and vibration impacts during construction and operation and in a cumulative context with existing development. Construction traffic noise must also be addressed. The assessment must take into account the following guidelines, as relevant: *Interim Noise Construction Guidelines* (DECC 2009), *Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise* (EPA, 1999), *Industrial Noise Policy* (EPA, 2000) and *Assessing Vibration: A Technical Guideline* (DECC, 2006).
- **Hazards and Risk** – the Environmental Assessment shall include an assessment of the hazards and risk associated with the project

	<p>including details of hazardous materials used or kept on the premises during the construction and operation phases, particularly any additional risk at the Wollongong or Shellharbour Sewage Treatment Plants. The assessment must refer to the Department's Guideline <i>Applying SEPP 33</i> (DUAP, 1994). If relevant, a <i>Preliminary Hazard Analysis</i> in accordance with the Department's Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No.6, <i>Guidelines for Hazard Analysis</i> must be included as part of the Environmental Assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental Risk Analysis– notwithstanding the above key assessment requirements, the Environmental Assessment shall include an environmental risk analysis to identify potential environmental impacts associated with the project (construction and operation), proposed mitigation measures and potentially significant residual environmental impacts after the application of proposed mitigation measures. Where additional key environmental impacts are identified through this environmental risk analysis, an appropriately detailed impact assessment of this additional key environmental impact must be included in the Environmental Assessment.
Consultation	<p>You should undertake an appropriate and justified level of consultation with relevant parties during the preparation of the Environmental Assessment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ local, State or Commonwealth government authorities and service providers such as the Department of Health, the NSW Office of Water, the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, the Lake Illawarra Authority, the Department of Industry and Investment, the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Roads and Traffic Authority, and Shellharbour and Wollongong City Councils. ▪ specialist interest groups, including local Aboriginal land councils; and ▪ the local community, including affected landowners. <p>The Environmental Assessment must describe the consultation process, document all community consultation undertaken to date and identify the issues raised (including where these have been addressed in the Environmental Assessment).</p>