

Mr Matthew Edgerton
Director, Water
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box K35
HAYMARKET POST SHOP NSW 1240

Dear Mr Edgerton

I am writing regarding the Aquacell Pty Ltd network operator's licence application for drinking water, recycled water and sewerage services at Narara Eco Village under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006*.

Based on the information provided NSW Health does not consider the drinking water scheme will pose any unacceptable risks and notes that it is the proponent's responsibility as the water supplier to ensure that all potential public health risks are adequately managed.

NSW Health supports the application. I request that NSW Health is consulted by IPART during the detailed drinking water and recycled water risk assessments, at the Technology Assessment stages, following the final compliance audit and before retail supply commences to ensure that all relevant public health matters have been considered. At this stage of the application, NSW Health does not request any specific licence conditions.

NSW Health also requests that it is consulted in the development of incident notification and management procedures. NSW Health advises that verification monitoring of both the drinking water and recycled water systems is required at a frequency recommended by the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011)* and the *Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling: Managing Health and Environmental Risks (2006)*.

NSW Health's response to the application should not be considered an approval or endorsement of any documentation. Review of documents is limited to potential public health issues. NSW Health expects that the adequacy and compliance of the water quality management plans with the relevant frameworks for the management of drinking water and recycled water quality will be confirmed through the audit process.

The granting of a licence under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* does not automatically exempt the applicant from the requirement under the *Public Health Act 2010* and Public Health Regulations 2012 to develop and adhere to a drinking water management system.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission. Should officers of IPART require further information, please contact Dr Katrina Wall at the Water Unit, NSW Health on (02) 9391 9894. Should the applicant require further information they may contact an Environmental Health Officer at the Central Coast Public Health Unit on (02) 4320 9752.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Prof Wayne Smith.

23 Apr 15

Prof Wayne Smith
Director, Environmental Health

NSW Health
ABN: 92 697 899 630

Locked Mail Bag 961- North Sydney NSW 2059
Telephone (02) 9391 9885 Fax (02) 9391 9960
Website www.health.nsw.gov.au