

11 December 2019



WHAT

We have received an application for a variation to the licence that authorises the provision of drinking water, recycled water and sewerage services to the Catherine Hill Bay scheme.

The variation application seeks to:

- ▼ Expand the area of operations to allow the construction, maintenance and operation of a pipeline to transfer surplus recycled water to Central Coast Council's Gwandalan Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- ▼ Allow recycled water to be used for construction and maintenance related activities.

The application seeks to change the method of disposal of surplus recycled water and consequently remove the need to further treat recycled water for release to the local environment. The surplus recycled water is now proposed to be transported to Central Coast Council's Gwandalan Wastewater Treatment Plant. The variation will:

- ▼ Remove the need for the reverse osmosis reject evaporation ponds
- ▼ Remove the need to irrigate surplus recycled water on site.

No change is proposed to the drinking water services.

This licence variation application is independent of the previous variation application that was withdrawn in April 2019.



WHERE

The Catherine Hill Bay scheme is located within the Lake Macquarie City Council local government area. The proposed surplus recycled water transfer main is located in both the Lake Macquarie City Council and the Central Coast Council local government areas. The proposed extended area of operations is identified on the [map](#).



WHO

Catherine Hill Bay Water Utility Pty Ltd (CHBWU) holds the existing network operator's licence (number 16_035) and is authorised to construct, maintain and operate water industry infrastructure in the Catherine Hill Bay area. Solo Water Pty Ltd (Solo Water) is the owner of CHBWU and named as an authorised person on the licence.



HOW

The licence was granted under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* (NSW) (the WIC Act).

The National Parks and Wildlife Service has approved the section of the proposed transfer main that runs through the national park (*Appendix C12a and C12b of application*).

Central Coast Council has granted approval for another proposed section of the transfer main that runs along Kanangra Drive, Summerland Drive and connection to the Gwandalan Wastewater Treatment Plant (*Appendix C12c of application*).



WHEN

The submissions period is now open and will close on 12 February 2020.



WHY

The licence, if varied, would authorise CHBWU, and Solo Water (as an authorised person), to construct, maintain and operate additional recycled water and sewerage infrastructure in the area specified. These activities cannot be undertaken without a licence.



WHAT NEXT

Information about the proposed variation to the Catherine Hill Bay scheme is available on our [website](#).

Tell us what you think about the variation application, by using the [Get in touch with us](#) link on our website.

We will consider the variation application, and how they meet the licensing criteria and principles of the WIC Act. We will also consider all stakeholder submissions. Our reports to the Minister will summarise our assessment of the variation application and any submissions.