



Department of Primary Industries

Office of the Director General

DGPO17/24

27 MAR 2017

Dr Peter Boxall
Chairman
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box K35
HAYMARKET POST SHOP NSW 1240

Dear Dr Boxall

Department of Primary Industries Fisheries IPART submission – 2017/18 to 2020/21 determination period

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Fisheries is responsible for the sustainable management of native fish species and their associated habitats throughout NSW. This outcome is achieved through ensuring all developments and activities within NSW are consistent with the objectives of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (herein referred to as the FM Act) and associated regulations. As the major bulk water provider across NSW, the activities and operations of WaterNSW intersect with the FM Act on a regular basis. This includes, but is not limited to, the provisions under Part 7 of the FM Act relating to the protection and restoration of fish habitats and the provision of adequate fish passage throughout the state's waterways.

DPI Fisheries has routinely provided advice direct to WaterNSW and IPART/ACCC with respect to the regulatory cost of compliance of WaterNSW activities. These costs represent the minimum investment required to ensure that WaterNSW operations are undertaken in a sustainable manner and are consistent with the legislative requirements as outlined in the FM Act.

The information enclosed with this letter summarises the estimated regulatory costs of compliance for the upcoming determination period. The submission includes a consideration of obligations to operate and maintain existing infrastructure in a manner consistent with the fish passage and dredging and reclamation requirements of the FM Act; the planning, design and environmental assessment costs associated with upcoming and completed capital expenditure, as part of works to ensure compliance with the FM Act and estimates of the capital expenditure themselves. The submission also considers the recent transfer of assets from DPI Water to WaterNSW and the associated regulatory costs relating to their ongoing management.

The current proposal for a Strategic Fish Passage Program for action at high priority fish passage barriers in NSW is noted in IPART's draft determination. The adoption of this program by the NSW Government, if supported, will not diminish the current legislative obligations of WaterNSW.

DPI Fisheries has considered the scope of works to be completed across the suite of WaterNSW assets relating to existing and future FM Act requirements and the feasibility of completing certain activities within the upcoming determination period.

If you require a meeting to discuss the proposed costings and regulatory obligations in more detail or require further information, please contact Mr Craig Copeland, Program Leader, Aquatic Habitat Rehabilitation, on 02 6626 1353.

Yours sincerely



SCOTT HANSEN
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Submission to IPART - DPI Fisheries cost estimates for meeting regulatory requirements under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 .

Planning, design and environmental assessment costs					17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
Item	Description	Valley	Rate	Units (annual)					
Review development proposals (major REF with fishways)	Major REFs including fish passage assessment - site visit (2 days), Document review, Correspondence		\$6,691	8	\$26,764	\$26,764			\$53,528
		Gwydir	\$6,691	2	\$6,691	\$6,691			
		Macquarie	\$6,691	2	\$6,691	\$6,691			
		Lachlan	\$6,691	3	\$6,691	\$13,382			
		Murray	\$6,691	1	\$6,691				
Review development proposals (major REF with fishways)	Major REFs - site visit (2 days), Document review, Correspondence		\$3,691	5	\$18,455	\$19,009	\$19,579	\$20,166	\$77,209
		Gwydir	\$3,691	1	\$3,691	\$3,802	\$3,916	\$4,033	
		Namoi	\$3,691	1	\$3,691	\$3,802	\$3,916	\$4,033	
		Macquarie	\$3,691	1	\$3,691	\$3,802	\$3,916	\$4,033	
		Lachlan	\$3,691	1	\$3,691	\$3,802	\$3,916	\$4,033	
		Murrumbidgee	\$3,691	1	\$3,691	\$3,802	\$3,916	\$4,033	
Review development proposals (minor REF no fishways)	Minor REFs - Review documents, Correspondence (\$397/site)		\$397	15	\$5,955	\$6,134	\$6,318	\$6,507	\$24,913
		Gwydir	\$397	3	\$1,191	\$1,227	\$1,264	\$1,301	
		Namoi	\$397	3	\$1,191	\$1,227	\$1,264	\$1,301	
		Macquarie	\$397	3	\$1,191	\$1,227	\$1,264	\$1,301	
		Lachlan	\$397	3	\$1,191	\$1,227	\$1,264	\$1,301	
		Murrumbidgee	\$397	3	\$1,191	\$1,227	\$1,264	\$1,301	
TOTAL					\$51,174	\$51,906	\$25,897	\$26,673	\$155,650

Capital cost of fishway construction					17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
Item	Description	Valley	Rate	Units (annual)					
Fishway construction cost - Tyreel Weir	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Gwydir			\$50,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000		\$3,050,000
Fishway construction cost - Tyreel Regulator	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Gwydir				\$50,000	\$1,820,000	\$2,000,000	\$3,870,000
Detailed Fishway Design - Boolooroo	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Gwydir	estimate			\$200,000	\$241,000		\$441,000
Detailed Fishway Design Tareelaro	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Gwydir	estimate				\$200,000	\$290,000	\$490,000
		GWYDIR TOTAL			\$50,000	\$1,750,000	\$3,761,000	\$2,290,000	\$7,851,000
Fishway construction cost - Walgett Weir 11A	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Namoi			\$4,200,000				\$4,200,000
		NAMOI TOTAL			\$4,200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,200,000
Fishway construction cost - Marebone Break	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Macquarie			\$50,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,350,000		\$4,400,000
Fishway construction cost - Gunningbar	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Macquarie				\$50,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,850,000	\$4,900,000
Detailed Fishway Design - Gin Gin	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Macquarie	estimate				\$171,000	\$200,000	\$371,000
		MACQUARIE TOTAL			\$50,000	\$2,050,000	\$4,521,000	\$3,050,000	\$9,671,000
Detailed Fishway Design - Condobolin	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Lachlan	estimate		\$138,000	\$100,000			\$238,000
Fishway construction cost - Condobolin	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Lachlan				\$50,000	\$2,000,000	\$1,350,000	\$3,400,000
Detailed Fishway Design - Jemalong	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Lachlan	estimate		\$350,000	\$350,000			\$700,000
Fishway construction cost - Jemalong	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Lachlan				\$50,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$10,050,000
Detailed Fishway Design - Lake Brewster	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Lachlan	estimate				\$398,000	\$400,000	\$798,000
Fishway Design - Lake Cargelligo Inlet Regulator	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Lachlan	estimate		\$200,000				\$200,000
Fishway CAPEX - Lake Cargelligo Inlet Reg	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Lachlan				\$1,400,000			\$1,400,000
		LACHLAN TOTAL			\$688,000	\$1,950,000	\$7,398,000	\$6,750,000	\$16,786,000
Fishway Design - Wakool Regulator	Estimated capital cost of fishway design	Murray			\$200,000				\$200,000
Fishway construction cost - Wakool Regulator	Estimated capital cost of fishway construction	Murray				\$1,300,000			\$1,300,000
		MURRAY TOTAL			\$200,000	\$1,300,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000
Sub-total					\$5,188,000	\$7,050,000	\$15,680,000	\$12,090,000	\$40,008,000

Submission to IPART - DPI Fisheries cost estimates for meeting regulatory requirements under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 .

Operation and Maintenance of Fishway Infrastructure				17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
Item	Description	Valley	Rate	Units				
FISHWAY ASSESSMENTS								
Tyreel Weir Fishway assessment		Gwdir					\$48,734	\$48,734
GWYDIR FISHWAY ASSESSMENT		Gwdir					\$48,734	\$48,734
Mollee Fishway assessment	Fish Tagout & PIT Maintenance	Namoi			\$48,854	\$48,854		\$97,708
Walgett Fishway Assessment	Fish Tagout, PIT Maintenance, & Trapping	Namoi			\$119,812	\$119,812	\$119,812	\$359,435
NAMOI FISHWAY ASSESSMENT		Namoi			\$168,666	\$168,666	\$119,812	\$0
Marebone Fishway assessment	Fish Tagout & PIT Maintenance	Macquarie			\$49,895	\$48,735		\$98,630
Marebone Break Fishway assessment		Macquarie					\$48,734	\$48,734
MACQUARIE FISHWAY ASSESSMENT		Macquarie			\$49,895	\$48,735	\$48,734	\$147,364
Island Creek Fishway assessment		Lachlan					\$36,729	\$36,729
Lake Cargelligo Fishway assessment		Lachlan					\$41,729	\$41,729
Lake Cargelligo Inlet Regulator Fishway assessment		Lachlan					\$41,729	\$41,729
LACHLAN FISHWAY ASSESSMENT		Lachlan					\$120,187	\$41,729
Beavers Creek Fishway assessment		Murrumbidgee					\$36,729	\$36,729
MURRUMBIDGEE FISHWAY ASSESSMENT		Murrumbidgee					\$36,729	\$36,729
Wakool Regulator Fishway Assessment		Murray					\$36,729	\$36,729
Stevens Fishway Assessment		Murray					\$36,729	\$36,729
Assessment		Murray					\$36,729	\$36,729
MURRAY FISHWAY ASSESSMENT		Murray					\$110,187	\$110,187
FISHWAY ASSESSMENT TOTAL					\$218,561	\$217,401	\$386,915	\$249,384

FISHWAY ASSET MAINTENANCE & REMEDIATION	Description	VALLEY			17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
Island Creek Fishway Remediation	Fishway not effectively passing fish	Lachlan			\$40,000				\$40,000
Lake Cargelligo Remediation	Fishway not effectively passing fish	Lachlan			\$40,000				\$40,000
LACHLAN FISHWAY REMEDIATION		Lachlan			\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$80,000
Beavers Creek Remediation	Fishway not effectively passing fish	Murrumbidgee			\$200,000				\$200,000
MURRUMBIDGEE FISHWAY REMEDIATION		Murrumbidgee			\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
Fishway Maintenance	WaterNSW to predict per site across valleys								\$0
Sub-Total					\$280,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$280,000

ANNUAL FISHWAY OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE						
Catchment	WaterNSW fishway sites (as of July 2016)	Estimated hours travel	Estimated km's	Sustenance (days)	Estimated hours inspection	TOTAL
Namoi	Mollee Weir	5	610	2	4	
	NAMOI TOTAL	\$465.00	\$524.60	\$438.00	\$372.00	\$1,799.60
Macquarie	Gunningbar Ck Weir				2	
Macquarie	Marebone Weir				2	
Macquarie	Warren Weir	18	1530	2	2	
Macquarie	Duck Ck Regulator				2	
Macquarie	Crooked Ck Regulator				2	
	MACQUARIE TOTAL	\$1,674.00	\$1,315.80	\$438.00	\$930.00	\$4,357.80
Lachlan	Bumbuggan Ck Weir				2	
Lachlan	Island Ck Weir	16	1300	3	2	
Lachlan	Lake Cargelligo Weir				2	
Lachlan	Booligal Weir				2	
	LACHLAN TOTAL	\$1,488.00	\$1,118.00	\$657.00	\$744.00	\$4,007.00
Murrumbidgee	Beavers Creek Weir				2	
Murrumbidgee	Tarabah Weir	12	1000	3	2	
Murrumbidgee	Balranald Weir				4	
	MURRUMBIDGEE TOTAL	\$1,116.00	\$860.00	\$657.00	\$744.00	\$3,377.00
Total		\$4,743.00	\$3,818.40	\$2,190.00	\$2,790.00	\$13,541.40

COST SUMMARY

Planning, design and environmental assessment costs		17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
GWYDIR TOTAL		\$11,573	\$11,719	\$5,179	\$5,335	\$33,806
NAMOI TOTAL		\$4,882	\$5,028	\$5,179	\$5,335	\$20,424
MACQUARIE TOTAL		\$11,573	\$11,719	\$5,179	\$5,335	\$33,806
LACHLAN TOTAL		\$11,573	\$18,410	\$5,179	\$5,335	\$40,497
MURRUMBIDGEE		\$4,882	\$5,028	\$5,179	\$5,335	\$20,424
MURRAY TOTAL		\$6,691	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,691
TOTAL		\$51,174	\$51,906	\$25,897	\$26,673	\$155,650

Capital cost of fishway construction		17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
GWYDIR TOTAL		\$50,000	\$1,750,000	\$3,761,000	\$2,290,000	\$7,851,000
NAMOI TOTAL		\$4,200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,200,000
MACQUARIE TOTAL		\$50,000	\$2,050,000	\$4,521,000	\$3,050,000	\$9,671,000
LACHLAN TOTAL		\$688,000	\$1,950,000	\$7,398,000	\$6,750,000	\$16,786,000
MURRAY TOTAL		\$200,000	\$1,300,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000
TOTAL		\$5,188,000	\$7,050,000	\$15,680,000	\$12,090,000	\$40,008,000

Operation and Maintenance of Fishway Infrastructure		17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
GWYDIR TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$48,734	\$48,734
NAMOI TOTAL		\$168,666	\$168,666	\$119,812	\$0	\$457,143
MACQUARIE TOTAL		\$49,895	\$48,735	\$0	\$48,734	\$147,364
LACHLAN TOTAL		\$80,000	\$0	\$120,187	\$41,729	\$241,916
MURRUMBIDGEE TOTAL		\$200,000	\$0	\$36,729	\$0	\$236,729
MURRAY TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$110,187	\$110,187	\$220,374
TOTAL		\$498,561	\$217,401	\$386,915	\$249,384	\$1,352,260

ANNUAL FISHWAY OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE		17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
NAMOI TOTAL		\$1,799.60	\$1,799.60	\$1,799.60	\$1,799.60	\$7,198.40
MACQUARIE TOTAL		\$4,357.80	\$4,357.80	\$4,357.80	\$4,357.80	\$17,431.20
LACHLAN TOTAL		\$4,007.00	\$4,007.00	\$4,007.00	\$4,007.00	\$16,028.00
MURRUMBIDGEE TOTAL		\$3,377.00	\$3,377.00	\$3,377.00	\$3,377.00	\$13,508.00
TOTAL		\$13,541.40	\$13,541.40	\$13,541.40	\$13,541.40	\$54,165.60

GRAND TOTAL SUMMARY						
		17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	TOTAL
GWYDIR TOTAL		\$61,573	\$1,761,719	\$3,766,179	\$2,344,069	\$7,933,540
NAMOI TOTAL		\$4,375,347	\$175,494	\$126,791	\$7,134	\$4,684,766
MACQUARIE TOTAL		\$115,826	\$2,114,812	\$4,530,537	\$3,108,426	\$9,869,602
LACHLAN TOTAL		\$783,580	\$1,972,417	\$7,527,373	\$6,801,071	\$17,084,441
MURRUMBIDGEE		\$208,259	\$8,405	\$45,285	\$8,712	\$270,661
MURRAY TOTAL		\$206,691	\$1,300,000	\$110,187	\$110,187	\$1,727,065
	GRAND TOTAL	\$5,751,276	\$7,332,848	\$16,106,353	\$12,379,599	\$41,570,076