

Mr Hugo Harmstorf  
Chief Executive Officer  
IPART NSW  
PO Box K35  
HAYMARKET POST SHOP NSW 1240

Your ref **D18/19091**

Our ref **M18/ 6680**

Dear Mr Harmstorf

I refer to your request for a submission on a variation to the application by Cooranbong Water Pty Ltd for a network operator's licence. NSW Health supported the application by Cooranbong Water Utility Pty Ltd for a network operator's licence (licence number 15\_033).

The variation is to expand the area where sewage is collected and recycled water is supplied by the existing recycled water treatment plant at Cooranbong. NSW Health understands that no changes to the recycled water treatment process are proposed. However, the application states there is an additional end use (dust suppression) for the recycled water. NSW Health notes that drinking water is sourced from Hunter Water and the variation will also expand the area supplied with drinking water.

NSW Health advises that the risk assessments for drinking water, sewage and recycled water should be reviewed in consultation with stakeholders including NSW Health, IPART and EPA. NSW Health is also advising that the management plans for drinking water, sewage and recycled water will need to be updated if details of the scheme change, including an assessment of the capacity of the systems to service the expanded area.

NSW Health notes that the risk assessments for drinking water, sewage and recycled water were last updated in September 2018. Hunter New England Health was not consulted during this update to the risk assessment. I request, as noted previously, that NSW Health is consulted during risk assessments, development of management plans and development of incident notification protocols.

NSW Health's response should not be considered an approval or endorsement of the applicant's documentation. NSW Health's review has focused on potential public health issues. NSW Health expects that the audit process will confirm the adequacy of the drinking and recycled water management plans and compliance with the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* and *Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling*.

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 Regulation 2012* to have and comply with a drinking water management system.

**NSW Health**

ABN 95 885 087 830

73 Miller St North Sydney NSW 2060  
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Tel. (02) 9424 5918 Fax. (02) 9391 9960  
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Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission. Should officers of IPART require further information, please contact Dr Katrina Wall, A/Manager Water Unit on [REDACTED]. Should the applicant require further information they may contact Mr Philippe Porigneaux, Hunter New England Health on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

11 December 2019

Mr Matthew James  
**A/Director Environmental Health Branch**

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