



The Hon Niall Blair MLC
Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Lands and Water



IM15/28968

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

Dear Mr Harmstorf

Thank you for your letter of 23 September 2015 concerning Flow Systems Operations Pty Ltd's application for a network operator's licence under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* (WICA) for a new development at Bellbird, NSW.

It is understood that the WICA licence application is for the construction, maintenance and operation of water industry infrastructure to provide sewerage, drinking water and recycled water services to the new North Bellbird Precinct development. This site is located within the boundaries of the *Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2009*.

The application indicates that potable water will be sourced from Hunter Water's bulk water supply under a Utility to Utility Supply Agreement. As Hunter Water is already licensed under the *Water Management Act 2000* (WMA), no further water access licence (WAL) and/or water supply works approval is required for the potable supply.

The application also indicates that recycled water will be used for "grey" purposes, including toilet flushing, garden watering, irrigation of public areas and dust suppression during construction of subsequent stages. It is understood this water will be sourced from a combination of waste water produced within the development area, stormwater and may be augmented by potable water as required.

Under harvestable rights provisions of the WMA, it is possible to capture up to 10% of runoff from a property without the need for a WAL or approval. However, capture of runoff that exceeds this allowance will require a WAL and water supply works approval, unless subject to an exemption.

I have asked that Alison Collaros, Senior Water Regulation Officer, Department of Primary Industries - Water in Newcastle be available to provide further information if required. Ms Collaros may be contacted on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely,

The Hon Niall Blair MLC
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19 OCT 2015