



NSW DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES



-5 DEC 2007

OUT07/8957

Review of Operating Licence for State Water Corporation
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230

Dear Sir

Thank you for the opportunity to review the 2005-08 Operating Licence for State Water Corporation.

One aspect of the review of the Operating Licence of particular interest for NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) is in relation to the discussion about the effectiveness of Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) between State Water Corporation (SWC) and government departments. NSW DPI would like to reinforce the effectiveness of the MoU and illustrate how it has assisted the two agencies work together with the following example.

Currently, NSW DPI assists SWC with the implementation of its Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which is prepared in accordance with the conditions (8.1) of the Operating Licence. A cooperative approach to EMP implementation is facilitated by the MoU. Under the MoU, NSW DPI report to SWC on its achievement against the following key performance indicators on an annual basis:

- Total number of kms (upstream and downstream) opened to the free passage of native fish
- Length of riparian habitat restored
- Area of aquatic habitat managed for protection during State Water works in accordance with FM Act.

Should you require further information on this issue, please contact Rebekah Gomez-Fort, Policy Manager, Water and Resources Policy Branch on 4916 3844 or email rebekah.gomez-fort@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

WENDY STAMP
Executive Director
Strategy, Policy and Communications