

Your Ref: N/A
Our Ref: AQUA Doc # 12823402
Enquiries: Natalie Jackson
Telephone: 6330 6741



8 May 2014

Dr Paul Vogel
Chairman
Environmental Protection Authority
Locked Bag 33
CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850

Dear Dr Vogel

**RE: KWINANA DEWATERING
REFERRAL UNDER S38 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986**

The Water Corporation is pleased to submit the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) Referral Form and supporting documentation in relation to the Water Corporation's proposal to discharge, over a two month period, overflow dewatered water into a man-made open drain which flows approximately 300 m to the south into a large wetland (Bollard Bulrush Swamp), the core of which is mapped as Conservation Category Wetland (CCW), listed under the Swan Coastal Plain Lakes Policy 1992; with the outer section mapped as Multiple Use wetland.

Please note this letter is to be read in conjunction with the attached EPA Referral Form and associated supporting information.

Background

Bertram Road Sewer Pump Station (SPS) was commissioned in 1992 as a standard Type 90 pump station within the Kwinana Sewer District. This SPS delivers through a DN200 PVC pressure main into the Christmas Avenue gravity sewer that transfers wastewater through Bronwell Crescent SPS to the Kwinana Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The East Rockingham Wastewater planning scheme review 2009 identified the need to increase the hydraulic capacity to service current and future wastewater flows.

In January 2015, construction commenced with a 600 m³ emergency overflow storage tank at the site of the existing Bertram Road SPS.

A steady 20L/s of groundwater is currently being dewatered from the excavation area and while an infiltration pond was constructed in accordance with the project's Dewatering Management Plan (DMP) (developed by GHD), it has had to be moved further away and increased in size to prevent dewatered water infiltrating the excavation site.

However, the water is not infiltrating as predicted so the Water Corporation has recently started pumping overflow into a City of Kwinana drain during work hours to compensate for this. Due to the City of Kwinana's drainage system getting inundated with dewatered water, however, the holding basin is at capacity (near the brim).

The Water Corporation has exhausted all possible options to dispose of the dewater water to prevent overflow of the infiltration pond; and an overflow is likely to occur shortly.

Basis for Referral

The proposed project falls within the *Environmental Protection (Swan Coastal Plain Lakes) Policy 1992* area. Part 3 of the *Environmental Protection Gnangara Mound Crown Land Policy 1992* states that 'a person shall not cause or permit the discharge or disposal of effluent into a lake unless the person is authorised under the Act to do so...', where 'authorised under the Act' means –

- (a) Authorised under a works approval, a licence, a requirement contained in a pollution abatement notice, Section 40 (1)(a) of the Act (by being informed under that section that a proposal does not need to be assessed under Part IV of the Act), a condition under section 45 of the Act, a direction under section 73 of the Act or an exemption under section 75 of the Act.'

The Proposal

The Water Corporation believes that the proposed temporary discharge does not require formal assessment under Part IV of the EP Act as the Water Corporation does not consider that the proposed discharge of dewatered water into the drain will have a significant impact on the environment.

If you have any queries regarding this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact Natalie Jackson (Natalie.Jackson@watercorporation.com.au) or 6330 6741.

Yours sincerely



Rupert Duckworth
Manager, EIA & Approvals Section,
Environment and Aboriginal Affairs Branch
Water Corporation

Enclosed: EPA Referral Form
 Attachments 1 – Figures and Appendices
 Enclosure 1 – Spatial data