



INFORMATION ONLY

DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

11th October 2005

**DSDS1 SALTWATER AND OLD SHELL PETROLEUM
TERMINAL LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES (LES): SOUTH WEST ROCKS
FILE: T5-55; T5-94 DMcD**

SUMMARY:

To provide a progress report on the preparation of Local Environmental Studies at South West Rocks.

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Background

Saltwater LES

Council on 11th June 2002 resolved to prepare a draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP) to rezone Lot 509 DP 850963, Lot 19 DP 850963 and Lot 52 DP 831284 Phillip Drive, South West Rocks, for residential purposes. Subsequently, at the request of the proponent, Council included Lot 84 DP 79245 in the study.

The Department of Planning NSW advised Council in a letter dated 19th August 2002 that an environmental study is required.

Connell Wagner Pty Ltd were appointed by Council in February 2004 to prepare the LES.

A preliminary draft LES was provided to Council in April 2005.

Old Shell Petroleum Terminal LES

Council on 25th May 2004 resolved to prepare a draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP) to rezone Lot 1 DP 445196 Phillip Drive, South West Rocks, for residential purposes.

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources in a letter dated 28th July 2004 advised that an environmental study is required.

Environmental Resources Management Australia Pty Ltd were appointed by Council in November 2004 to prepare a LES for Lot 1 DP 445196 Phillip Drive, South West Rocks.

A preliminary draft LES was submitted to Council in February 2005.

Progress

General

Detailed comments on each draft LES have been submitted to the consultants, outlining the need for further information or further work on specific components of the studies.

Revised LES documents are being prepared by both consultants to address the above.

The Saltwater Creek Flood Study and the Saltwater Creek and Lagoon Estuary Management Plan are nearing completion, both of which will provide crucial ecological and flooding information.

Saltwater LES

Further studies are being undertaken to determine the buffer zone for the South West Rocks Sewage Treatment Plant and stage 1 of the Wallum Froglet survey is nearing completion.

Old Shell Petroleum Terminal LES

An assessment of the Remediation Action Plan (RAP) that details measures to resolve site contamination was completed in May 2004. Recommendations are being included in the draft LES. A number of other matters also need to be addressed.

Proposed Focus Group Meetings

It is considered essential in the LES preparation process to engage the community early and often to keep them informed. It is also important to obtain further feedback from government authorities on the preliminary findings of the LES. The following sessions are proposed:

3rd November 2005 at the Surf Life Saving Club, South West Rocks

Briefing of Councillors - commencing at 11am

Government Authorities Meeting commencing at 2pm

Consultants will provide information on each draft study, recommendations and the way forward. Government Department representatives will be given an opportunity to ask questions, and provide feedback.

Planning Focus Group Meeting commencing at 6.30pm

Information is to be provided to members of the public including recommendations of each study and preliminary findings. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to ask questions.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

There will be no significant impacts.

- ***Social***

Community consultation is considered a key activity in the planning process for achieving social sustainability.

- ***Economic (Financial)***

The cost of the Planning Focus Group meetings will be paid for by the proponents.

- ***Policy or Statutory***

The proposed Planning Focus Group meetings are consistent with Council's Community Consultation Policy C24:16.

Conclusion:

A Councillor briefing session for the Local Environmental Studies for the Saltwater and Old Shell sites be held at 11am on the 3rd November 2005, is to be held at the South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club.

Councillors are encouraged to attend the Planning Focus Group meeting at 6.30pm on the same day.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES