



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

9TH May 2006

DSS3 WATER SUPPLY –EMERGENCY BORES
FILE: 332 EU

SUMMARY:

Reporting on Council's Kinchela Emergency Bores along Hat Head Road.



Council at its Ordinary Meeting of 14 March 2006 requested that the previous report of August 2002 [Appendix B](#) on the Emergency Bores be brought forward.

The previous report is updated below.

As indicated in the attached August 2002 Council Report, Council in partnership with Department of Energy Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS) is in the process of transferring the Kinchela Emergency Bores from a testing licence to a town water supply licence. As part of this process a long-term pumping trial was required to determine the maximum sustainable yield of the bore-field. This pumping trial was project managed by the Department of Commerce (DOC) and undertaken in late October early November 2002 by hydro-geologic consultants.

A Draft report was received from the consultants in August 2004 and Review and comments made by Macleay Water, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the former Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC). This review process determined that further groundwater modelling was required.

A Draft Final report with the inclusion of further modelling results was received from the consultants in September 2005. Macleay Water reviewed and made comments, and awaited comment from DNR. Macleay Water has now been advised by DOC that comment from DNR has been received (April 2006), indicating that they accept the recommendations of the report. With the submission of these comments the process of finalising the pumping trial report should now proceed. Once this final report is submitted to Council,

an application to the DNR for a town water licence at this bore-field can proceed.

Generally the Draft report recommends:

- That the optimum bore-field yield is 1.9ML/day (695ML/year) if a specific pumping regime is followed. This is less than the 3.2ML/day issued under the current testing licence.
- A suitable monitoring regime should be established in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources for implementation as a license condition.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Environmental effects have been considered as part of the report by the hydrologist.

- *Social*

The licensing of the bore will increase Council's ability to provide water, especially during drought periods.

- *Economic (Financial)*

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

- *Policy or Statutory*

There are no Policy or Statutory implications arising from this report.

- *Acting Director's Review*

Once the final report is received, Council will need to consider its implications before submitting a licence application.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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A P Vermeulen
ACTING DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES