



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

13 October 2009

DSS5

BELLBROOK WATER TREATMENT PLANT

FILE: 1099 AMB (NRN)

{Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the change of scope recently negotiated for the Bellbrook water treatment plant.

◆◆◆◆◆

DESCRIPTION:

Recent processes have been underway to gain a s.60 approval through the Department of Water and Energy for the Bellbrook water treatment plant. An s.60 approval is an approval under the Local Government Act where the NSW Office of Water (NOW, previously DWE) reviews and approves major changes or major new components of water supply and/or sewage treatment facilities.

Through this s.60 approval process and the various discussions that ensued, written confirmation from NOW was gained to interconnect the Bellbrook village and the Thungutti community was gained. As part of these discussions, a commitment was also gained to fund the cost difference in WTP capacity should the costs escalate above the federal grant of \$700,000. To enable the procurement process to move forward, the WTP capacity was revised up to accommodate water demands of the current and future Thungutti community in conjunction with the Bellbrook village.

As such, in tender documentation recently released, the selected companies have been asked for provision of a treatment plant capacity of 6kl/hr, whereas the previous capacity requirements for the Bellbrook village alone, was 4kl/hr. Effectively, the water treatment plant capacity is now 50% larger.

This process of discussion has resulted in delays, which is likely to translate to delays in the milestones set within the deed of agreement with the federal government Department of Environment, Heritage, Water and the Arts (DEWHA). The mechanism for reviewing these milestones is currently being determined with the DEWHA officer for the project and DEWHA is aware of council's actions to recover timeline delays. However, until a successful tenderer is appointed for the water treatment plant, it is not possible to determine the extent of milestone delays.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS:

- **Environmental**

Nil

- **Social**

Nil

- **Economic (Financial)**

Nil

- **Policy or Statutory**

Nil

- **Director's Review**

Whilst this change has resulted in a delay in the delivery of the project the eventual outcome will provide an enhanced service to the broader community in the Upper Macleay.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

.....
Bruce Morris
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES