

Planning and Development (Conditional Environmental Significance Opinion – Block 8, Section 1, Symonston – CX11095 – Amtech Sewer Pump Station Refurbishment) Notice 2022 (No 1)

Notifiable instrument NI2022–560

made under the

Planning and Development Act 2007, s 138AD (Requirements in relation to environmental significance opinions)

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Planning and Development (Conditional Environmental Significance Opinion – Block 8, Section 1, Symonston – CX11095 – Amtech Sewer Pump Station Refurbishment) Notice 2022 (No 1)*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

3 Conditional environmental significance opinion

- (1) On 4 September 2022, the Conservator of Flora and Fauna, pursuant to section 138AB (4) (b) of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the *Act*), gave the applicant a conditional environmental significance opinion in relation to the CX11095 – Amtech Sewer Pump Station Refurbishment, on block 8, section 1, Symonston.

(2) In this section:

conditional environmental significance opinion means the opinion in the schedule.

Note Under section 138AD (6) of the Act, the conditional environmental significance opinion and this notice expire 18 months after the day the notice is notified.

Craig Weller
Delegate of the planning and land authority
27 October 2022

Schedule

See section 3(2)

We have ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OPINION

In accordance with section 138AB(4) of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the Act), I provide the following environmental significance opinion:

APPLICANT

Icon Water, as represented by Mr Michael Smith, Environmental Scientist.

APPLICATION and DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

The applicant has applied under section 138AA of the Act to the Conservator of Flora and Fauna for an environmental significance opinion to the effect that the development proposal set out in the submission is not likely to have a significant adverse environmental impact (the application).

The development proposal is for the refurbishment of the Amtech Sewer Pump Station in Symonston, including moving existing pits and switchboards on site and the construction of a widened and permanent access track with a ranger's gate installed at the front.

LOCATION

The works are located at Block 8, Section 1, Symonston.

MATTERS TO WHICH THIS OPINION APPLIES

This opinion applies only to the development proposal as described in the application.

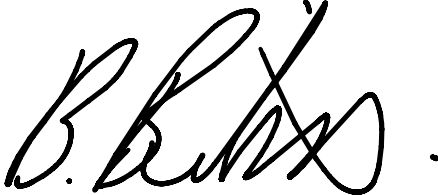
OPINION

Provided the works are undertaken in a manner consistent with the following conditions in addition to the mitigation measures contained in the supporting application for an ESO, they are unlikely to cause a significant adverse environmental impact.

This opinion is granted subject to the following conditions made under s138AB(4) of the Act:

1. No 'hot works' are to be undertaken as part of the project on days of a Total Fire Ban. Hot works includes welding, cutting, grinding, or other works involving open flames, or which emit a spark.
2. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is to be developed provided to the Conservator of Flora and Fauna for endorsement prior to any construction commencing.
3. Prior to the commencement of any activity on site, the PCS South Offsets Ranger in Charge should be notified to avoid any potential impact on offset values adjacent to the construction site. The main contact will be Maree Gilbert on 6205 2842, or Maree.Gilbert@act.gov.au with an alternative contact being Kristy Gould on 6207 5980 or Kristy.Gould@act.gov.au.
4. The proponent must comply with all relevant work health and safety standards whilst on site and report any serious incidents or damage to PCS within 24 hours.

Attached is a Statement of Reasons for the decision.



Bren Burkevics
Conservator of Flora and Fauna

4 September 2022

STATEMENT OF REASONS REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The proposed development is a proposal mentioned in Schedule 4 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* – Development proposal for an activity requiring an EIS Schedule 4, being:

Part 4.3, item 1(a) development that may impact on a species or ecological community that is endangered, a species that is vulnerable; protected; or has special protection status;

Five animal species listed as threatened have either been recorded or have the potential to occur within the subject area:

- *Hieraaetus morphnoides* - Little Eagle
- *Perunga ochracea* - Perunga Grasshopper
- *Synemon plana* - Golden Sun Moth
- *Delma impar* - Striped Legless-lizard
- *Cooraboorama canberrae* - Canberra Raspy Cricket

The proponent wants the application for the development approval assessed in the merit track on the grounds that the proposal is not likely to have a significant adverse environmental impact, and has applied to the Conservator of Flora and Fauna to that effect.

Meaning of *significant* adverse environmental impact

An adverse environmental impact is ***significant*** if—

- (a) the environmental function, system, value or entity that might be adversely impacted by a proposed development is significant; or
- (b) the cumulative or incremental effect of a proposed development might contribute to a substantial adverse impact on an environmental function, system, value or entity.

In deciding whether an adverse environmental impact is ***significant***, the following matters must be taken into account:

- (a) the kind, size, frequency, intensity, scope and length of time of the impact;
- (b) the sensitivity, resilience and rarity of the environmental function, system, value or entity likely to be affected.

In deciding whether a development proposal is likely to have a significant adverse environmental impact it does not matter whether the adverse environmental impact is likely to occur on the site of the development or elsewhere.

It has been determined that the proposal is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact, based on the documentation submitted, known values of the site, and provided the works and ongoing management are carried out in accordance with the conditions attached to this ESO.

Project description

Icon Water is proposing refurbishment and reconfiguration activity on the Amtech Sewer Pump Station located in Symonston. The proposed works include moving existing pits and switchboards currently on site to new locations, as well as the construction of a widened path and permanent access track with a ranger's gate installed at the front. The access track is currently dilapidated in places, with erosion occurring at the start of the track.

Documentation Submitted

- Environmental Significance Opinion – Planning Report – Icon Water – CX11095 Amtech SPS Report (June 2022);
- Amtech SPS Renewals Heritage Enquiry;
- Letter of Authorisation; and
- ESO Application Form

Natural conservation values present

The vegetation community around the Amtech Sewer Pump Station site is largely mown grassland; predominately exotic grassland with some native species present. The tree species present on the edges of the site include White Poplars (*Populus alba*), Brittle Gum and River She-Oak (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*), juvenile Eucalyptus and several recently planted Yellow Box Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus melliodora*). None of these trees are regulated or registered.

At least one species of mammal, one species of frog, three species of reptiles, and nine species of birds have been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the proposed works.

Five animal species listed as threatened have either been recorded or have the potential to occur within the subject area:

- *Hieraetus morphnoides* - Little Eagle
- *Perunga ochracea* - Perunga Grasshopper
- *Synemon plana* - Golden Sun Moth
- *Delma impar* - Striped Legless-lizard
- *Cooraboorama canberra* - Canberra Raspy Cricket

Impact on the Surrounding Environment

Based on an assessment of the site, the proposed project is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact on the surrounding environment or any of the threatened species in the vicinity. No trees or shrubs will be impacted by the works.

The works will all be located within the existing disturbed footprint, expect for marginally widening the access track and placement of the ranger's gate.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts

Conditions have been included to ensure that works will not increase the likelihood of bushfire or impact adjacent values:

1. No 'hot works' are to be undertaken as part of the project on days of a Total Fire Ban. Hot works includes welding, cutting, grinding, or other works involving open flames, or which emit a spark.
2. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is to be developed provided to the Conservator of Flora and Fauna for endorsement prior to any construction commencing.
3. Prior to the commencement of any activity on site, the PCS South Offsets Ranger in Charge should be notified to avoid any potential impact on offset values adjacent to the construction site. The main contact will be Maree Gilbert on 6205 2842, or Maree.Gilbert@act.gov.au with an alternative contact being Kristy Gould on 6207 5980 or Kristy.Gould@act.gov.au.
4. The proponent must comply with all relevant work health and safety standards whilst on site and report any serious incidents or damage to PCS within 24 hours.

It has been determined that if the works are undertaken in a manner consistent with the above conditions attached to the ESO in addition to the mitigation measures contained in the supporting application for an ESO, they are unlikely to cause a significant adverse environmental impact.