

Planning and Development (Conditional Environmental Significance Opinion – Block 1553, Belconnen – Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre Bioreactors) Notice 2023 (No 2)

Notifiable instrument NI2023–657

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 1553, Belconnen – Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre Bioreactors) Notice 2023 (No 2)*

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

3 Conditional environmental significance opinion

- (1) On 17 August 2023, the ACT Heritage Council, 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 construction, on Block 1553, Belconnen, of two new bioreactors at the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre.

- (2) In this section:

conditional environmental significance opinion means the opinion in the schedule.

Note Under the Act, s 138AD (6) 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
6 October 2023



ACT Heritage Council

HERITAGE ADVICE

Environmental Significance Opinion

ACTPLA Reference: ESO202300028
 Heritage Reference: Belconnen RB 1553
 Contact Officer: EG
 Received by Council: 7 July 2023
 Due date: 18 August 2023

TO: ACT planning and land authority
 Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
EPDImpact@act.gov.au

Block:	Division / District:	Heritage Place:
1553	Belconnen	LMWQCC IF1, LMWQCC IF2, LMWQCC IF3, LMWQCC IF4, LMWQCC Scarred Tree, LMWQCC Site 1, LMWQCC Site 4, LMWQCC Site 5, LMWQCC Site 6, LMWQCC Site 7 and PAD, MRC121, MHPAD, MH1, MHIF1.

Status of Place: Registered Heritage Places
 Description of Works: Facility expansion and upgrade Stage 1.
 Report Details: “Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre: Biosolids Management Cultural Heritage Assessment” (CHMA 2022)
 Council Advice provided by: Manager (Approvals and Advice)

Pursuant to Section 138AB of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* and Section 60 of the *Heritage Act 2004*, the ACT Heritage Council advises that:

☒ The proposal is **unlikely to have a significant adverse environmental impact, subject to conditions** described below.

Background:

On 7 July 2023, the ACT planning and land authority referred information regarding an application for an Environmental Significance Opinion (ESO) to the ACT Heritage Council (the Council) for entity advice (ESO202300028).

The ESO application details proposed works to expand the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre (LMWQCC). The project is staged in three parts with Stage 1 being the upgrading and construction of installation of new bioreactors and the associated treatment chain. Stages 2 and 3 are proposed for 2050 and 2070 and are therefore not subject to this ESO but will require further assessment in the future.

The application is accompanied by “*Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre: Biosolids Management Cultural Heritage Assessment*” (CHMA 2022) (‘the CHA’). The CHA assesses the broader LMWQCC area and includes areas not subject to the ESO.

From review of the ESO and the CHA, the known heritage place within the disturbance footprint is LMWQC IF1. LMWQC IF1 was recorded in 1992 and was not re-found during heritage survey in 2022. A number of other Aboriginal places including LMWQC IF3, which is noted as a possible extension of MRC 121, are in close proximity. The CHA includes the recommendation that a final attempt to locate and salvage LMWQC IF1 is completed prior to any impacts occurring.

Recommendations are also included in the CHA for other Aboriginal places that are not directly applicable to this ESO referral.

Decision and Conditions:

As a delegate of the Council, I advise that the proposed works for Stage 1 (only) of the project are unlikely to have a significant adverse environmental impact, subject to the conditions below being met:

1. A Statement of Heritage Effect (SHE) application shall be developed by a heritage consultant in consultation with the Representative Aboriginal Organisations, that details the proposed methodology to investigate, locate and salvage LMWQC IF1 and any other Aboriginal places that may be impacted by the works. Any SHE application must meet *Heritage Act 2004* requirements and the Council's (2015) *Cultural Heritage Reporting Policy*;
2. The SHE application shall be submitted to the Council for approval prior to the submission of the Development Application for the project; and
3. Any mitigation actions required and/or conditions arising from any SHE approval shall be completed prior to the commencement of works.

As a Council delegate, I also advise that future Stages 2 and 3 noted in the ESO referral are not covered by this advice. This advice also does not constitute endorsement of the CHA.



Dianne Bensley
Manager (Approvals and Advice) (as delegate for),
ACT Heritage Council

17 August 2023