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Mr. D. Honan
Manildra Group
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1 November 2007

Dear Dick

Wastewater Treatment

Thank you for your letter dated 18 October, 2007 and our meetings of 17 October and 26 October, 2007.

As discussed at those meetings, I believe that there are a range of treatment options that could be explored in further detail to determine the best environmental and economic solution for further processing of the treated wastewater from the Manildra Plant on Bolong Road, Bomaderry.

Council is currently finalising the concept for Stage 1B of the REMS project. It is currently proposed that all secondary treated reclaimed water from Bomaderry would be pumped to the Nowra WwTP. At Nowra WwTP, the combined reclaimed water flows from Nowra and Bomaderry WwTPs would then be tertiary treated to produce reclaimed water suitable for transfer to REMS.

In the current concept, the upgrading work proposed at the Bomaderry STP includes the provision of a balance pond, storm detention pond, alum dosing facilities and a reclaimed water transfer pumping station and associated transfer main under the Shoalhaven River, for transferring secondary treated and balanced flows to Nowra WwTP.

The existing Bomaderry STP has limited additional treatment capacity. The plant currently consists of a 4,000 EP (equivalent persons) trickling filter system and an 8,500 EP extended aeration system. The plant currently has an average dry weather flow of approximately 2mL/day as compared to the theoretical capacity of 3mL/day. This capacity is based on a BOD loading of less than 300 mg/L.

Council recognises that the characteristics of the effluent from the Manildra plant are different to that of domestic sewerage and that a completely separate process stream may be the most viable option for treatment of your wastewater stream. It is also recognised, however, that there may be some complementary systems that could provide a more efficient and effective overall strategy. There are a number of scenarios that could be explored and I am supportive of an approach that would be of mutual benefit to Council, the community and Manildra.

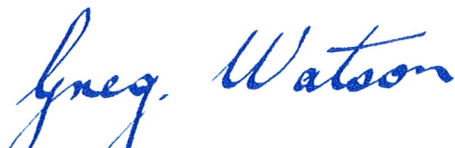
I suggest that to move the project forward Council's technical staff and consultants work with your technical experts to compile all the necessary data and to develop viable options for further treatment of the wastewater from the Manildra plant. Further consultation with the relevant statutory authorities should also form part of the options development. The advantages and disadvantages of the developed options could then be assessed by both Council and Manildra.

Following preliminary discussions to date between Council and Manildra staff an indicative timetable has been developed for completion of works required to further treat and reuse the Manildra plant's wastewater subject to the quality of the wastewater being suitable for linking with Council's system.

I understand that your consultants are currently preparing designs for appropriate treatment technology to achieve this quality of wastewater and a timetable for accepting Manildra's treated wastewater by the Council's system has been developed on this basis. This timetable which is a best endeavours estimate at this stage, subject to resolution of technical details, regulatory approvals and commercial arrangements, aims to have an operational plant from Manildra by December 2009.

I look forward to working with Manildra to facilitate beneficial outcomes for the community and the environment.

Kind regards


Greg Watson
Mayor