



MD18/4962  
D18/30297

Mr Hugo Harmstorf  
Chief Executive Officer  
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal  
PO Box K35  
HAYMARKET POST SHOP NSW 1240

26 November 2018

Dear Mr Harmstorf

I refer to your letter to the Minister for the Environment, the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, inviting submissions on the licence variation for Central Park Water Pty Ltd (CPW). Your letter has been referred to me and I have been asked to reply on the Minister's behalf.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has reviewed CPW's application for a licence variation and does not consider that the proposed variations to the WICA licence pose any additional risk to the environment. The EPA is very supportive of initiatives to treat and reuse effluent and encourages the expansion of schemes such as Central Park Water as a means of conserving and reusing water resources.

The EPA is not aware of any breaches of the *Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) and has not taken any regulatory action against CPW.

With regards to requirements for approvals under the POEO Act, s36 of Schedule 1 states that an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) is required for sewage treatment that has a processing capacity that exceeds 2,500 persons equivalent or 750 kilolitres per day, whichever is the greater where there is the discharge or likely discharge of wastes or by-products to land or waters. The EPA provided comment on the original CPW WICA application in 2012 stating that there was no requirement for an EPL as the scheme was not expected to discharge to waters or land. It is the EPA's understanding that the proposed variation does not alter the current waste disposal methods (i.e. disposal to sewer) and as such the requirement for an EPL remains unchanged despite the increase in treatment capacity potential at the CPW to 1300kL/day.

IPART has specifically requested whether the varied network operator's licence should contain any specific conditions in relation to protection of the environment. The EPA has no recommended conditions relating to the environment that should be included in the network operator licence. It is the opinion of the EPA that it is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that all relevant environmental legislation is complied with and that the licensing implemented by IPART should not duplicate legislated environmental requirements.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Ms Bernie Turner, Regional Operations Officer, Metropolitan Infrastructure, EPA, on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

**JACINTA HANEMANN**  
**Regional Manager Operations - Metropolitan Infrastructure**  
**Environment Protection Authority**

Phone 131 555

Phone +61 2 9995 5555  
(from outside NSW)

Fax +61 2 9995 5999

TTY 133 677

ABN 43 692 285 758

PO Box A290

Sydney South

NSW 1232 Australia

59-61 Goulburn St

Sydney NSW

2000 Australia

[info@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@epa.nsw.gov.au)

[www.epa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au)

