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Ref: D2010/0162

Ms Natasha Watson
28 Georges Road
Otford NSW 2508

Dear Ms Watson

Zoning of Special Areas in the finalised Wollongong Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2009

Thank you for your recent email to the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) raising concerns about the zoning of land in the Helensburgh area in the Wollongong LEP 2009.

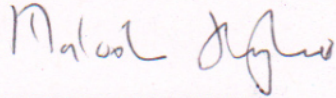
The SCA provided a submission during the public submission of the draft LEP to Wollongong City Council. In its submission, the SCA supported the zoning of land within Special Areas owned and managed by the SCA as either E2 Environmental Conservation (where the land was used for water catchment purposes) or SP2 Infrastructure (where the land was used for operational purposes) within the draft LEP. Such an approach is consistent with the sec 117 *Planning Direction 5.2 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments* which specifies what zones should apply to land owned and managed by the SCA.

It appears that some lots owned and managed by the SCA within the Woronora Special Area have been zoned in the finalised Wollongong LEP 2009 inconsistent with the *Planning Direction 5.2 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments* and SCA's advice to Council. These lots are located adjacent to the Princes Highway near Helensburgh (see attached Maps 1 and 2). While the lots were zoned E2 Environmental Conservation in the exhibited draft LEP, they are now zoned E3 Environmental Management in the finalised Wollongong LEP 2009. The SCA has written to Council requesting that the SCA owned and managed land within the Woronora Special Area identified above is re-zoned, consistent with the *Planning Direction 5.2 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments*, to E2 Environmental Conservation.

In your email you also raised concerns in regard to Council's review of land formerly zoned 7(d) at Helensburgh, Otford and Stanwell Tops which may result in a planning proposal to amend the Wollongong LEP 2009. In regard to the review of 7(d) land, while the review does not include SCA owned land within the Woronora Special Area, it does include small portions of land within the drinking water catchment as defined by the *Sydney Drinking Water Catchment Regional Environmental Plan* (see attached Maps 3 and 4). The SCA has reminded Council that any planning proposal which may result from the review which includes land within the drinking water catchments must be consistent with *Planning Direction 5.2 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments*.

If you wish to discuss any matter raised in this letter please contact Angela Langdon on 4725 2449 or via email angela.langdon@sca.nsw.gov.au (please note Angela works part time on Mondays, Thursday and Fridays).

Yours sincerely



MALCOLM HUGHES
Manager, Planning and Assessments

30/4/10

Natasha Watson - Otford Protection Society