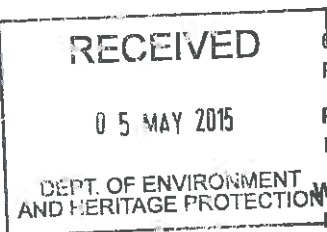




Mareeba
SHIRE COUNCIL



65 Rankin Street
PO Box 154 MAREEBA QLD 4880
P: 1300 308 461
F: 07 4092 3323
W: www.msc.qld.gov.au
E: info@msc.qld.gov.au

29 April 2015

Council Ref: WAW-DES-TRE BS:MJA

Your Ref: EPPR01792213

Environmental Services and Regulation
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
PO Box 7230
CAIRNS QLD 4870

Attention: Mr Scott Sullivan

Dear Mr Sullivan

TRANSITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM MAN18760 - MILESTONE REPORT

Mareeba Shire Council (MSC) is pleased to present you with its first milestone report describing the compliance with milestones described in Transitional Environmental Program MAN18760.

The upgrade of the Mareeba Sewage Treatment has been a historically problematic environmental compliance issue for both DEHP and MSC. However, the circumstances of MSC post de-amalgamation have favoured an alternative way forward to achieve a sustainable wastewater treatment service for the Mareeba community that will provide sound environmental outcomes.

As you can appreciate, the first stages of any project require the identification of opportunities, constraints and the methodologies to achieve objectives. The opportunities are clear with a motivated Council poised to adopt a very significant capital works expenditure for the upgraded plant in June.

The constraints such as the scope, timing, quality and budget are being resolved as they present. As the TEP is a binding contract between MSC and the State, MSC will endeavour to inform you about identified constraints. Earlier I wrote to you about a project constraint. That is, MSC was awaiting the decision to be made by the Minister for Local Government about the post de-amalgamation final cash allocation. That decision has now been received and MSC can move forward in its financial planning. Constraints regarding the current effluent quality release limits have been identified and will be resolved through statutory processes.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter further, please direct your enquiry to Council's Environmental Compliance Officer, Ms Amy Yates on 07 4086 4743.

Yours faithfully

BRIAN SMYTH
DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Attachment

- TEP Milestone Report April 2015

MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL

MAREEBA SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

Transitional Environmental Program

Milestone Report April 2015

1. Introduction

The Mareeba Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) services the township of Mareeba. Mareeba is located approximately 60 km north west of Cairns in Far North Queensland. The local authority for Mareeba is the Mareeba Shire Council (MSC) which owns and operates the existing STP.

MSC operates its Mareeba STP under an Environmental Authority. The existing STP at Mareeba is an aging facility and is hydraulically overloaded and does not meet license conditions for several parameters including ammonia-N and BOD.

MSC seeks to provide improvement to the treatment process particularly focusing on hydraulic capacity and discharge effluent quality. The works are intended to provide Mareeba with a sustainable future for the plant to cater for future growth in the Mareeba region.

2. Background

On 17 November 2014, DEHP approved MSC's voluntary draft Transitional Environmental Program (TEP). The approved TEP details the way forward for MSC to achieve compliance with its Environmental Authority. The TEP contains objectives and milestones that must be met. This report describes MSC's progress towards achieving those objectives and completing the milestones.

3. Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Compliance with EA Condition 5F.C3 (Quality Characteristics of Release to Waters)

The following actions have been undertaken to achieve this objective:

- MSC has engaged a Hunter Water H2O to deliver specialist process design and Tender Contract documentation.
- Golder Associates has delivered specialist geotechnical information to be utilized by the Civil Construction Design consultant.
- MSC and Hunter Water H2O have undertaken a process options assessment using a Multi Criteria Assessment, cost estimation and assessment of risks. This assessment phase has identified the complimentary preferred technologies of MBR, SBR and oxidation ditch. Existing infrastructure suitable for reuse has also been identified.
- The objective for Council to add process technology to improve effluent quality as future standards tighten has been included in the Multi Criteria Assessment to short list suitable technology for the refurbishment.

- Hunter Water H2O now has all inputs to deliver:
 1. Process flow diagram
 2. Site layout prepared on Visio
 3. Sizing of key structures and identification of flow and recycles.
 4. Capital Cost
 5. Key operating costs
 6. Life Cycle costs
- The documentation for the Inlet Works is in its final draft and ready for tender.
- Design documentation for the new pressure rising main to service the refurbished plant is ready for tender. This rising main is critical to the overall refurbished plant.

Objective 2: 5F.H15 (Monitoring of Volume of Release)

A flow meter to measure the quantity of effluent has been included in the preliminary process design. Preferred brand and type of flow meter and instruments has been selected.

Objective 3: 5F.A9(f)(ii)(1a)(1b)(Site Based Management Plan).

A Receiving Environment Management Program (REMP) has been designed and finalized. Please find the REMP attached. The first round of sampling in accordance with the REMP has been conducted.

4. Hold Points and Performance Indicators

Council has been driving the desired outcomes and can report on the achievement of milestones relating to the April 2015 Milestone Report. In some instance MSC has delivered on milestones ahead of its scheduled completion date.

Performance Indicators	Date	Responsibility	DEHP Report Date
Completion of process design brief, geotechnical and construction plans.	27 April 2015	Director Infrastructure Services	April 2015
<i>Status: Partial completion.</i> Process design brief and the geotechnical report have been completed. MSC is moving to a standard design and construct methodology and as such the completion of the construction plans will not be realised until after the awarding of the tender. MSC has applied to PALM for the amendment of this internal milestone to better reflect the process MSC is taking to achieve the upgraded project. MSC will also be applying to PALM for the amendment of its Environmental Authority to provide modern and practicable license discharge limits. This is essential for the tender process. MSC anticipates that the proposed amendment to the TEP milestones accounts for the time required to fulfil the EA amendment process and the design and construct process.			
Completion of financial modelling for remainder of works.	27 April 2015	Director Infrastructure Services	April 2015
<i>Status: Completed.</i>			
Completion of EIMP (REMP) design.	27 March 2015	Director Infrastructure Services	April 2015
<i>Status: Completed.</i>			
Completion of packaged Inlet works documentation.	30 June 2015	Director Infrastructure Services	September 2015
<i>Status: Completed</i>			
Implementation of EIMP (REMP)	01 July 2015	Director Infrastructure Services	September 2015
<i>Status: Completed</i>			
Tender and start construction	30 August 2015 (see application for TEP milestone amendment)	Director Infrastructure Services	September 2015
Construction	Proposed December 2015 - December 2016	Director Infrastructure Services	March, Sept, Dec 2016
Completion Construction	December 2016	Director Infrastructure Services	December 2016
Operation and start verification testing	Jan 2017	Director Infrastructure Services	March 2017
End of defects liability & verification testing	November 2017	Director Infrastructure Services	November 2017