



Review of Environmental Factors Addendum

Frenchs Forest Reservoir Refurbishment



Determination

This Review of Environmental Factors Addendum (REFA) assesses potential environmental impacts of proposed changes to the Frenchs Forest Reservoir Refurbishment. The REF was prepared under Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), with Sydney Water both the proponent and determining authority.

The Sydney Water Project Manager is accountable for ensuring the proposal is carried out as described in this REFA and the approved REF. Additional environmental impact assessment may be required if the scope of work or work methods described in this REFA change substantially following determination.

Certification

I certify that I have reviewed and endorsed this REFA and, to the best of my knowledge, it is in accordance with the EP&A Act and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation). The proposal has been considered against matters listed in section 171 (Appendix A) and the guidelines approved under section 170 of the EP&A Regulation. The information it contains is neither false nor misleading.

Prepared by:	Reviewed and endorsed by:	Endorsed by:
 Andrea Glass Environmental Scientist Sydney Water Date: 07/05/2025	 John Eames Environment Representative Sydney Water Date: 12/05/2025	 Giovanni Boggio Project Manager Sydney Water Date: 23/05/2025

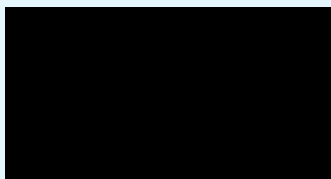


Decision Statement

The main potential additional construction environmental impacts of the proposal change include impacts to soils, flora and noise. During operation, minimal visual amenity impacts are anticipated. The proposal will not be carried out in a declared area of outstanding biodiversity value and is not likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats. Therefore, a Species Impact Statement (SIS) and/or Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) is not required.

Given the nature, scale and extent of impacts and implementation of the mitigation measures outlined in this REF, the proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, we do not require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the proposal may proceed.

Determined by:



Murray Johnson
Senior Manager Environment and Heritage
Sydney Water
Date: 13/06/2025

1. Proposal description

Table 1-1 Proposal need, objectives and consideration of alternatives

Aspect	Relevance to proposal
Approved REF	Frenchs Forest Reservoir Refurbishment (March 2025)
Proposal change description and methodology	<p>The proposed changes to the approved project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of an access path from Warringah Road to the Frenchs Forest Water Pumping Station (WP0175) • Trimming of a tree that is currently limiting access to the pumping station from Warringah Road • Valve replacement and electrical works within the pumping station.
Justification for proposal change	<p>This addendum to the approved project is required to facilitate an alternative supply of drinking water while the reservoir from the approved project (WS0283) is being refurbished. Currently, there is no way to take the reservoir offline without an alternate supply. The replacement of valves and electrical component upgrades would allow for the reservoir to be taken offline, and an alternative drinking water supply to supply the network.</p>
Location and land ownership	<p>The relevant lot and DPs for this proposal includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 1 DP 90180 • Lot A DP333624. <p>Both are an easement owned by Sydney Water.</p>
Site establishment and access tracks	<p>Site establishment would include trimming of a tree and establishing an access track.</p> <p>The tree at the start of the access track (closest to Warringah Road) is currently limiting vehicular access and requires trimming.</p> <p>To access the pumping station an access track would be installed between Warringah Road and the pumping station. About 200 millimeters of topsoil would be removed and Densely Graded Base (DGB) would be installed. The access track would remain in situ after project completion.</p>
Ancillary facilities (compounds)	<p>Materials laydown and vehicle parking would occur within the easement in proximity to the pumping station.</p>



Figure1-1 Location of proposal change



2. Consultation

There are no additional consultation matters above those already assessed in the approved REF.

3. Legislative requirements

Additional legislative requirements above those already assessed in the approved REF are detailed in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2.

Table 3-1 Environmental planning instruments relevant to the proposal change

Environmental Planning Instrument	Relevance to proposal
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (TISEPP)	<p>Section 2.159 of the TISEPP permits development by or on behalf of a public authority for water supply without consent on any land.</p> <p>As Sydney Water is a public authority, the proposal is permissible without consent.</p>

Table 3-2 Consideration of additional environmental legislation

Legislation	Relevance to proposal	Permit or approval	Timing and responsibility
<i>Roads Act 1993</i>	<p>Temporary traffic control may be required during construction to allow for vehicle access.</p> <p>Warringah Road is a State road, managed by Transport for NSW.</p> <p>Should lane closures be required, consultation will be undertaken with Transport for NSW before construction starts to obtain a Road Occupancy Licence in accordance with s.138 of the Act.</p>	Road Occupancy Licence	Pre-construction, contractor

4. Environmental assessment

The environmental impacts checklist (SWEMS0019.01) was considered for the proposal change. Table 4-1 includes only the potentially changed aspects. All other environmental impacts in the approved REF remain the same and will be incorporated into the contractor's CEMP.

Table 4-1 Review of additional environmental aspects

Aspect	Potential additional impacts
Topography, geology and soils	<p>To access the pumping station, an access track from Warringah Road to the pumping station would be installed. About 200 millimeters of topsoil would be removed and DGB would be installed. The access track would remain in situ after project completion.</p> <p>Potential impacts to topography, geology and soils would be managed by implementing the mitigation measures listed in the approved REF.</p>
Flora and fauna	<p>The trimming of a tree at the beginning of the easement (closest to Warringah Road) as shown on Figure 1 is required. The tree is not mapped as part of any plant community types.</p> <p>Trimming of the tree is not anticipated to have a significant impact to flora and fauna. The impact would be managed by implementing the mitigation measures listed in the approved REF.</p>
Noise and vibration	<p>Noise</p> <p>The proposal is within a residential setting. The existing noise environment is influenced by road traffic. Sensitive receivers who may be impacted by noise from the works includes residents adjacent to the pumping station.</p> <p>The works would generate noise during construction from the operation of machinery and equipment. Works are proposed to be carried out over 5 shifts per week (i.e. Monday through Friday 7am to 6pm). Construction would occur during standard daytime hours.</p> <p>The valve replacement and electrical works would occur within the pumping station and not anticipated to have a significant noise impact. The noisiest works of this proposal would be the use of the excavator to create the access track.</p> <p>Based on the risk profile of the works from Table 2 of the Draft Construction Noise Guideline (EPA, 2020), a quantitative noise assessment was performed for the proposal. The purpose of the noise assessment was to assess the predicted worst-case noise impacts. This identified recommended additional mitigation measures for impacted receivers at different distances from the works, which would guide community engagement for the proposal. The noise assessment was performed using the Transport for NSW Construction and Maintenance Noise Estimator. The modelled scenarios comprised of the following inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Representative noise environment – R3• Distance based (noisiest plant) – 5 tonne excavator• Line of sight to the receiver – No.



Aspect	Potential additional impacts
	<p>Noise levels higher than the existing environment during the day would be heard within 10 metres of the proposed works. Residential receivers on either side of the easement may be impacted by the use of the excavator when the access track is being installed. One additional mitigation measure from the Transport for NSW Construction and Maintenance Noise Estimator that should be considered by the community team is to notify residents of the potential noise impacts.</p> <p>No operational noise impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>Vibration</p> <p>No vibration impacts are anticipated.</p>
Waste and hazardous materials	<p>HazCentral identified asbestos and lead paint within the pumping station. Before construction starts, the pumping station would be inspected for these hazardous materials to confirm their location and appropriate removal of the materials if required.</p> <p>Construction waste streams are anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Redundant assets• Domestic waste• Contaminated materials• Green waste. <p>Waste will be stored in separate skip bins or delineated areas within the compound or taken directly off-site to a facility licensed to accept the waste. Recycling or re-use of waste streams such as green waste and concrete is encouraged where possible.</p> <p>Waste and hazardous materials would be managed by implementing the mitigation measures listed in the approved REF.</p>
Traffic and access	<p>The pumping station would be accessed from Warringah Road within an existing easement. Warringah Road is a State road.</p> <p>No road closures are anticipated. However traffic control may be used to allow for heavy vehicles to access the pumping station. The temporary traffic controls would create minor delays and diversions in traffic, active transport and public transport services.</p> <p>Traffic and access would be managed by implementing the mitigation measures listed in the approved REF.</p>
Social and visual	<p>The proposal has the potential to cause social impacts associated with air quality and noise, which have been assessed above and in the approved REF. Visual impacts from the loss of vegetation and presence of construction personnel and equipment are anticipated.</p> <p>The impacts to visual amenity during operation would be limited. The access track would be left after construction and remain visible from Warringah Road. The access track is not anticipated to have a significant visual impact.</p> <p>Social and visual impacts would be managed by implementing the mitigation measures listed in the approved REF.</p>



5. Conclusion

Sydney Water has prepared this REFA to assess the potential environmental impacts of proposed changes to the Frenchs Forest Reservoir Refurbishment. The proposed changes are required to allow for an alternative drinking water supply while the reservoir is being refurbished.

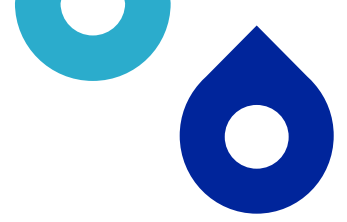
Potential additional construction environmental impacts arising from the proposed change include impacts to soils, flora and noise. During operation, minimal visual amenity impacts are anticipated. Given the nature, scale and extent of impacts, along with implementation of the mitigation measures outlined in the approved REF and this REFA, the proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required under Division 5.1 of the EP&A Act.

This REFA considers how the proposed change aligns with the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (Appendix B). The proposal remains aligned with that covered in the approved REF.



Appendix A – Section 171 checklist

There are no requirements in addition to those considered in the approved REF.

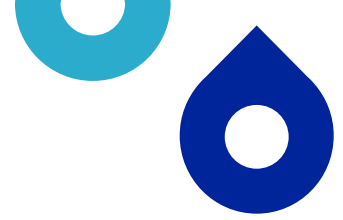


Appendix B – Consideration of Ecologically Sustainable Development

There are no ESD considerations in addition to those covered in the approved REF.

Appendix C – Consideration of TISEPP consultation

TISEPP section	Yes	No
Section 2.10, council related infrastructure or services – consultation with council		
Will the work:		
Potentially have a substantial impact on stormwater management services provided by council?		X
Be likely to generate traffic that will strain the capacity of the road system in the LGA?		X
Connect to, and have a substantial impact on, the capacity of a council owned sewerage system?		X
Connect to, and use a substantial volume of water from a council owned water supply system?		X
Require temporary structures on, or enclose, a public space under council's control that will disrupt pedestrian or vehicular traffic that is not minor or inconsequential?		X
Excavate a road, or a footpath adjacent to a road, for which the council is the roads authority, that is not minor or inconsequential?		X
Section 2.11, local heritage – consultation with council		
Is the work likely to affect the heritage significance of a local heritage item, or of a heritage conservation area (not also a State heritage item) more than a minor or inconsequential amount?		X
Section 2.12, flood liable land – consultation with council		
Will the work be on flood liable land (land that is susceptible to flooding by the probable maximum flood event) and will works alter flood patterns other than to a minor extent?		X
Section 2.13, flood liable land – consultation with State Emergency Services		
Will the work be on flood liable land (land that is susceptible to flooding by the probable maximum flood event) and undertaken under a relevant provision*, but not the carrying out of minor alterations or additions to, or the demolition of, a building, emergency works or routine maintenance? * (e) Div.14 (Public admin buildings), (g) Div.16 (Research/ monitoring stations), (i) Div.20 (Stormwater systems)?		X
Section 2.14, development with impacts on certain land within the coastal zone– council consultation		
Is the work on land mapped as coastal vulnerability area and inconsistent with a certified coastal management program?		X



TISEPP section	Yes	No
Section 2.15, consultation with public authorities other than councils		
Will the proposal be on land adjacent to land reserved under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> or land acquired under Part 11 of that Act? <i>If so, consult with DPE (NPWS).</i>		X
Will the proposal be on land in Zone C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves or on a land use zone that is equivalent to that zone? <i>If so, consult with DPE (NPWS).</i>		X
Will the proposal include a fixed or floating structure in or over navigable waters? <i>If so, consult TfNSW.</i>		X
Will the proposal be on land in a mine subsidence district within the meaning of the <i>Coal Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 2017</i> ? <i>If so, consult with Subsidence Advisory NSW.</i>		X
Will the proposal be on land in a Western City operational area specified in <i>the Western Parkland City Authority Act 2018</i> , Schedule 2 and have a capital investment value of \$30 million or more? <i>If so, consult the Western Parkland City Authority.</i>		X
Will the proposal clear native vegetation on land that is not subject land (ie non-certified land)? <i>If so, notify DPE at least 21 days prior to work commencing. (Requirement under s3.24 Chapter 3 Sydney Region Growth Centres - of the SEPP (Precincts – Central River City) 2021).</i>		X