

10.2 Mudgee STP - Emergency Works

REPORT BY THE MANAGER WATER AND SEWER
TO 21 APRIL 2021 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400088, GOV400088

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Manager Water and Sewer on the Mudgee STP - Emergency Works;**
2. **allocate a budget of \$275,000 to the Mudgee Sewer Treatment Plant modification budget to be funded from \$47,000 transferred from Sewer Treatment Renewals (sewer reserve funded) and \$228,000 funded through a transfer from Sewer Reserves ;**
3. **Engage TWS Evolution Pty Ltd to complete the plant modification works to increase discharge effluent quality in line with Environment Protection Licence requirements, as detailed in this report;**
4. **authorise exemption from tendering for the procurement of plant modification works to increase discharge effluent quality in line with Environment Protection Licence requirements, in accordance with Clause 55(3)(i) of Local Government Act 1993, due to the reasons listed below, should the contract exceed the tendering threshold:**
 - 4.1 **the urgent nature of the works to decrease the WHS risk of maintenance work and decrease risk of non-compliance with Environment Protection Licence requirements; and**
 - 4.2 **the immediate availability of TWS Evolution Pty Ltd and knowledge of the Mudgee Sewer Treatment Plant requirements due to the contractor completing the current emergency works.**

Executive summary

The pipework failures at Mudgee Sewage Treatment Plant have been rectified, with replacement pipework installed following the pipe failure incident of 24 March 2021. New pipework was commissioned and normal operations returned at Mudgee STP on Saturday 3 April 2021.

This report details further works proposed at Mudgee STP following the pipeline failures along with proposed plant modification works to increase discharge effluent quality in line with Environment Protection Licence requirements while also decreasing significant Work, Health and Safety risks at the STP.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

Internal access road rectification works associated with pipeline replacement works are yet to be undertaken. Assessment of requirements will be undertaken in April and road base restoration undertaken before Council's sealing contractor is next available in Mudgee. Other site infrastructure including stormwater drainage will need to be modified to avoid conflict with the newly installed pipework.

While the temporary bypass pumps and pipework that were used during the emergency pipeline repairs are onsite, Council staff will undertake major maintenance of the catch balance tank with the aim to increase discharge effluent quality in line with Environment Protection Licence requirements and prepare the tank for proposed modifications to remove the need to undertake future high risk manual cleaning of the tank.

It is proposed to allocate a project budget to allow for modification of the secondary effluent pump station and catch balance tank to be able to desludge the catch balance tank to the head of the IDEA tank process without the need for operators to enter the catch balance tank to manually desludge the tank periodically.

The contractors engaged to undertake the emergency pipeline works at Mudgee STP have the capacity to undertake pipework, modifications to the secondary effluent pump station and catch balance tank immediately.

Council has received confirmation from NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Water regarding the proposed works, and no further approvals are required.

Engaging the contractor who has been onsite doing the emergency pipeline works will allow Council to achieve significant reduction of risk in compliance with the current Environment Protection Licence for the Mudgee Sewerage System within the next 4-6 weeks.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Protecting Our Natural Environment
Goal	Provide total water cycle management
Strategy	Provide a water and sewer network that balances asset conditions with available resources and community needs

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Not Applicable

Council Policies

Mid-Western Regional Council Procurement Policy

Legislation

Local Government Act 1993, Section 55 – Requirements for Tendering.

Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, Environment Protection Licence 5230

Financial implications

The estimated budget required is \$275,000. This will be further refined following completion of onsite investigation and design works currently being undertaken. A budget of \$47,000 is available in the current Sewage Treatment Plant Renewals project. A further \$228,000 will be required to be transferred from sewer reserves.

Exemption is sought to engage TWS Evolution Pty Ltd (TWSe), the contractor engaged to undertake emergency pipeline works at Mudgee STP. TWSe have been onsite to undertake design and construction requirements and are able to immediately undertake works.

Budget Year	Operating Performance Ratio	Own Source Revenue	Building & Infrastructure Renewal
2019/20	-	-	✓
Future Years	-	-	-

Associated Risks

The recommendation is addressing a known risk, being management of adequate desludging of the catch balance tank at Mudgee Sewage Treatment Plant as both a WHS risk and a risk to ongoing compliance with Council's associated Environment Protection Licence.

CLAIRE CAM
MANAGER WATER AND SEWER

GARRY HEMSWORTH
DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

7 April 2021

Attachments: Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER