



EPA

Adam Wilson
Chief Executive Officer
Essential Services Commission SA
GPO Box 2605
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Adam,

RE: SA Water Draft Regulatory Determination 2016

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on ESCOSA's draft regulatory determination 2016 (RD16) of SA Water's Regulatory Business Proposal 2016. The EPA notes the comments made in RD16 on the role of EPA in setting environmental standards that SA Water is required to meet and that ESCOSA's role in such circumstances focuses on the efficiency of measures proposed.

The EPA is particularly pleased that ESCOSA supported the major capital expenditure projects at Murray Bridge and Port Lincoln Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) that were required to meet expected Environmental Improvement Program outcomes required by condition of EPA licence for each facility. We understand from SA Water that, although it will be seeking clarification for the reduction in spending for Murray Bridge WWTP, plant design options are currently being assessed and it intends to proceed.

The EPA notes ESCOSA's recommendation for longer term asset management planning, in particular for both water and sewer networks and is very supportive of this approach. The EPA would also support this longer term approach to asset management of wastewater treatment plants. The EPA will continue to prioritise asset management based on environmental risk and reserves the right to require investment via regulatory means. Notwithstanding this, the EPA looks forward to ensuring environmental outcomes are suitably addressed through a longer term focus in consultation with SA Water and other regulators.

For further information on this matter, please contact Sophie Martin, Manager Compliance on 8204 9947 or sophie.martin@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Wood', written over a diagonal line.

Andrew Wood

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OPERATIONS

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Date: 23/3/16