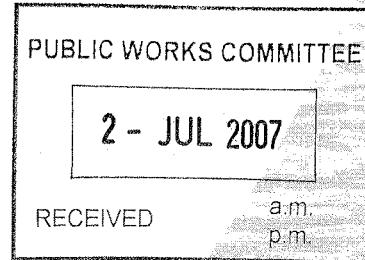


IPSWICH WATER

Your Reference:
Our Reference:
Contact Officer: Sandy Veeren
Telephone No.: 3810 7857

29 June 2007

Dear Mr Fuhrman



**Re: RAAF AIRBASE AMBERLEY REDEVELOPMENT STAGE 3
SUBMISSION TO A PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY**

Ipswich Water operates as a commercial business unit of Ipswich City Council. Ipswich Water's core business lies in planning, delivery and management of water and wastewater assets, enabling us to provide quality, reliable and affordable water and wastewater services to our valued customers.

Ipswich Water has always had an tremendous working relationship with the Department of Defence and consider the RAAF Airbase Amberley as one of its most valued customers. Ipswich Water is supportive of the Department of Defences Stage 3 redevelopment proposal and has been working with the Department of Defence to identifying a preferred wastewater strategy to accommodated its projected growth.

A draft report investigating wastewater strategy options is currently under review by the Department of Defence and Ipswich Water. The finding of the draft report recommend that wastewater generated at the Amberley RAAF Base should be transferred to Ipswich Water's proposed Western Ipswich Wastewater System to be located at Rosewood. Under the preferred option, sewerage would be pumped from the base via Walloon and Thagoona to an upgraded Rosewood Wastewater Centre.

Ipswich Water is delighted with this recommendation as it provides the necessary base flows to overcome operational issues and reduce stranded asset to support development growth in the suburbs of Walloon and Thagoona. These suburbs with a projected residential population of 42,000 persons are located within easy commuting distance to RAAF Base Amberley and the Ipswich CBD.

It is envisaged that the delivery of sewerage infrastructure through Walloon and Thagoona will be the catalyst for the development growth in these suburbs which will provide the primary source of housing for the Amberley RAAF Base. This growth will also provide a benefit in increased patronage on the existing passenger rail network and providing economical support for the Ipswich CBD.

LEADING THE WAY IN SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT



Mr John Fuhrman
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

A COMMERCIAL BUSINESS UNIT OF
IPSWICH CITY COUNCIL

PHONE (07) 3810 7855
FAX (07) 3810 7964
WEBSITE www.ipswichwater.com.au
EMAIL ipswichwater@ipswich.qld.gov.au
ADDRESS PO Box 191, Ipswich, Qld 4305 AUSTRALIA
ABN 61 461 981 077

It should be noted that the Rosewood Wastewater Centre will need to be upgraded to cater for the increased wastewater flows generated from the Amberley RAAF Base and the development in Walloon and Thagoona. Ipswich Water looks forward to these increased flows so that greater economies of scale can be achieved at the existing Rosewood Wastewater Centre and to provide opportunities for recycled water use to the rural sector. The Rosewood Wastewater Centre is also strategically positioned to enhance the environmental health of the Bremer River system.

There is also support for this sewerage strategy at a regional level as it aligns with the Queensland Water Commission's (QWC) objectives of securing sustainable water supplies in South East Queensland; and the Queensland Government Department of Infrastructure's (DOI) objective of delivering and coordinate major infrastructure projects across Queensland.

In this regard, the QWC consider that this strategy will provide considerable synergy with their proposed southern pipeline option to carry Class A+ recycled water from the Bundamba-Swanbank section of the Western Corridor Water Pipeline to the Lockyer Valley. It is envisaged that the Amberley RAAF Base maybe a customer on this pipeline while the Rosewood Wastewater Centre maybe a supply source water into the pipeline. A letter of support for the QWC for the strategic approach to transfer the RAAF wastewater to an augmented Rosewood Wastewater Centre is attached.

The DOI view the preferred sewerage strategy as a solution which will address a current constraint to the development of the Aerospace Park located adjacent to the Amberley Air Base. The DOI have indicated a willingness to work with this the Department of Defence and Ipswich City Council in investigating the necessary sewerage works between Amberley and Rosewood to support the development of the Aerospace Precinct. Attached is a copy of the DOI's letter of support for this strategic approach to transfer wastewater flow from Amberley RAAF Base to the Rosewood Wastewater Centre.

In summary, Ipswich Water is supportive of the proposed Stage 3 redevelopment of the RAAF Airbase Amberley and believe that based on the economical and sustainability grounds the transfer of wastewater from the proposed redevelopment to the proposed Western Ipswich Wastewater Centre is the best regional outcome.

If you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact Mr Sandy Veeren, Manager Services Planning of Ipswich Water on 3810 7857 or by email at tveeren@ipswich.qld.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



Barry Jeppesen
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
IPSWICH WATER

Enc.



28 June 2007

The Chief Executive Officer
Ipswich City Council
PO Box 191
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Sir

The Department of Infrastructure is currently investigating an Aerospace Park adjacent to the southern boundary of the Amberley Air Base. The Aerospace Park is being proposed as a commercial and industrial development to service the aerospace industry and specifically the Department of Defence and RAAF Base Amberley.

Following a recent pre-lodgement meeting with Ipswich City Council officers from Ipswich Water advised that the finding of a draft report, joint funded between the Department of Defence and Ipswich Water, recommended that the preferred method to deal with wastewater from the proposed Amberley Air Base was to transfer the flows to the Rosewood Wastewater Centre rather than upgrade the existing treatment facilities onsite.

Servicing the Aerospace Park with sewerage service is currently a constraint of the site. The Department of Infrastructure is willing to work with the Department of Defence and Ipswich City Council in investigating the necessary sewerage infrastructure works between the Amberley and Rosewood to support the development of the Aerospace Precinct. Any financial commitment to its construction will be subject to further negotiations between the Department of Infrastructure and the Ipswich City Council.

The Department of Infrastructure is supportive of Ipswich City Council's strategic approach to transfer wastewater flow from the Amberley RAAF Base to the Rosewood Wastewater Centre.

Yours sincerely



**Maurice Harvey
Executive Director
Property Services Group
Department of Infrastructure**

Executive Building
100 George Street
PO Box 15009
City East Qld 4002

Telephone 3224 2062
Facsimile 3224 7581
Website www.infrastructure.qld.gov.au
ABN 25 166 523 889

Our Ref: D/07/000996

Mr Col Hester
Senior Water Planning Engineer
Ipswich Water
PO Box 191
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Mr Hester

Western Ipswich Water and Sewerage Planning

I refer to your meeting with Mr Shaun Davidge on 27 June 2007 to discuss your plans for water supply and sewage treatment works in Western Ipswich. As Mr Davidge discussed, we are pleased to provide this letter of support to your planning concepts, as outlined in your Parliamentary Works Submission and discussed further below.

The Queensland Water Commission (QWC) is an independent statutory authority responsible for securing sustainable water supplies in South East Queensland and other designated regions.

QWC is investigating the feasibility of two options for providing recycled water from the Western Corridor Recycled Water Project (WCRWP) that would supply rural customers in to the Lockyer Valley. One option would transfer water to the Lockyer via Lowood and is referred to as the Northern option. The other option (the Southern option) would see a pipeline carrying Class A+ recycled water, connecting the Bundamba-Swanbank section of the Western Corridor Water Pipeline to the Lockyer Valley via a corridor to the south of Ipswich, most likely passing in the vicinity of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Amberley and the Rosewood Wastewater Centre.

Recent discussions with Ipswich City Council have indicated that the Commonwealth, QWC and Ipswich City Council have a common interest in providing secure water supply and upgraded sewerage infrastructure to the west of Ipswich, a region including the RAAF Base Amberley, Ebenezer, Walloon, Thagoona, Rosewood and the gateway to the rural customers of the Lockyer and Warrill Valleys.

Ipswich City Council has advised that a planning study conducted in partnership with the RAAF shows that the least cost option for dealing with RAAF wastewater is through the transfer of flow to and augmentation of Council's Rosewood Wastewater Centre in preference to independent redevelopment of a wastewater treatment plant at the RAAF Base Amberley.

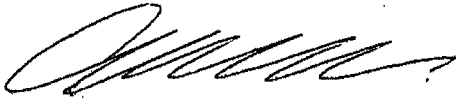
If the Rosewood Waste Water Centre proposal were to proceed, this would create considerable synergy with the Southern option as outlined above.

Overall, the Commonwealth's commitment to sustainable water use would also be aligned with QWC's objective to realise sustainable supply to the region (urban, commercial, industrial and rural demands) and Ipswich City Council's interest in sustainable development of the areas to the west of the City including Ebenezer, Rosewood, Walloon and Thagoona.

The QWC supports the strategic approach of Ipswich City Council to transfer the RAAF wastewater to an augmented Rosewood Wastewater Centre.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Barry Dennien of the Queensland Water Commission on telephone (07) 3033 0785 or via email: barry.dennien@qwc.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



John Bradley
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Water Commission