

Decision on Water Services Operating Licence Application for Moama Lifestyle Villages Pty Ltd

7 September 2010

Economic Regulation Authority



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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DECISION

1. The water services operating licence application was made to the Authority by Moama Lifestyle Villages Pty Ltd (**Applicant**) pursuant to section 22 of the *Water Services Licensing Act 1995 (Act)*.
2. Pursuant to sections 23 and 31A of the Act, the Authority approves the grant of a water services operating licence (**licence**) to the Applicant to provide non-potable water supply and sewerage services to the Tuart Lakes Lifestyle Village located on Mandurah Road, North Baldivis, subject to, and in accordance with, the terms set out in the water operating licence for a period of 25 years.

BACKGROUND

3. On 16 October 2009, the Applicant submitted a licence application to the Authority for a water services operating licence to provide non-potable water supply and sewerage services to the Tuart Lakes Lifestyle Village located on Mandurah Road, North Baldivis.
4. The Applicant proposes to construct a water recycling scheme which includes the operation of a waste water treatment plant (**WWTP**) and associated infrastructure to distribute recycled water for irrigation. The scheme proposed by the Applicant includes:
 - A waste water collection system of gravity pipework discharging into two pumping stations which then pump to the WWTP.
 - A WWTP to conduct primary treatment, biological secondary treatment, filtration and chlorination, for disinfection.
 - A treated water irrigation system for distributing the water to garden and orchard areas.
5. The proposed sewerage system is expected to have the capacity to service up to 940 customers and the watering system length is 3 kilometres.

REASONS

6. The Authority engaged the Paxon Consulting Group (**Paxon**) to examine the financial capacity of the Applicant to provide the water services that will be covered by the licence. Following the assessment, Paxon concluded that the Applicant has and will likely retain the financial resources to undertake the activities to provide the water services that will be covered by the licence.
7. The Authority engaged consultants SKM to examine the technical capacity of the Applicant to provide the water services that will be covered by the licence. Following the assessment, SKM concluded that the Applicant has and is likely to retain the technical resources to provide the water services that will be covered by the licence.

8. The Authority has considered the licence application including the advisors' assessments conducted for the purpose of the licence application and is satisfied that the Applicant meets the requirements of section 23(a) of the Act.
9. Section 31A of the Act states that, where the Authority is required under this Division to determine whether something would not be contrary to the public interest, the Authority, in making its determination, may take into account one or more of the matters referred to in section 19(1b).
10. A notice seeking public submissions on the licence application was published on the Authority's website on 23 October 2009. The Authority did not receive any submissions with respect to the granting of a licence to the Applicant.
11. In its consideration of the Application, the Authority considered the public interest, including the matters set out in section 19(1b) of the Act as required by section 31A. The Authority is satisfied that approval of a water services operating licence to the Applicant would not be contrary to the public interest.

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN