

Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Enquiries: Jason MacKay
Telephone: 0410 440080

1st May 2020

Jane O'Malley
Peel Harvey Catchment Council
58 Sutton St
Mandurah W A 6210

Dear Jane

RE: Update on delivery of Peel Main Drain Weir project

Please see below an update on the current status of the delivery of the design and construction of the Peel Main Drain weir and diversion project. Water Corporation undertook to deliver the design and construction of the weir in by 30 June 2020 however as you have been advised this timeline is not going to be achievable. Resolution of issues around the design and upstream impacts has progressed well, however given some of the processes associated with design finalisation, procedures for procurement, lead-time for components and seasonal site constraints impacting on construction mean completion of the project in the planned timeframe is not going to be achievable.

Whilst it is regrettable that the project will not be delivered as planned it should be remembered that as at August 2019, the design approach being proposed was not going to meet Water Corporation asset standard requirements. In addition final determination of required flows through the swales (impacting on design) occurred late January 2020 and approval from DBCA was only received late March. The schedule that has been developed indicates a delivery period of 14 weeks is possible, however this is based on favourable conditions, not the conditions expected including waterlogged soil conditions in the construction area as well as significant flows in the Peel Main Drain that would preclude safe construction conditions. The cost estimate to design and construct the weir and the inlet and outlet structures is in the order of \$200,000.

As you are aware this project is a trial project and is pushing boundaries relating to how rural drainage is managed and is a complex web of stakeholder expectations and requirements. This complexity combined with some changes in design during the project have pushed out timelines. Having said that there are a range of positives that the project has achieved:

- Agreed asset ownership (Water Corporation as the asset owner);
- Agreed preliminary design and incorporation of DWER monitoring station including weir height, contingency flow bypass and construction material;
- DBCA approval of design regarding upstream impacts on wetlands;
- Preliminary costings prepared and within budget;
- Schedule for delivery has been developed;
- Delivery method agreed - Water Corporation design and construct; and
- Project delivery team established.

Whilst not meeting originally planned timelines for expenditure of funding, Water Corporation strongly support extension of the time to deliver this project, to realise the water quality benefits and trial nature of the project and continue to build on stakeholder relationships. If it is helpful I am happy to meet with you and REI representatives to reiterate the Corporation's commitment and discuss opportunities to progress the project.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Brown".

Suzanne Brown