

STATEMENT OF JOINT INTENT

It is hereby agreed that

Department of Planning
Environment Protection Authority
Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Trust
Hornsby Council
Water Board

will henceforth work together to achieve, within the framework of the current Urban Development Program, the ecologically sustainable development of the Berowra Creek catchment and the recovery of the environmental health of the Creek.

To this end it is agreed that the initial goal for Berowra Creek at Fishponds Waterhole and downstream shall be consistent with the pursuit of recreational activities such as swimming, canoeing and boating. Furthermore, it is agreed that fishing with confidence and safety and the protection of the shellfish industry are longer term goals. The values to be protected are defined by the Australian Water Quality Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Waters and are characterised as Primary Contact Recreation and Protection of Modified Aquatic Ecosystems for Fish, Crustacea and Shellfish.

It is also agreed that a Water Quality Management Strategy and a Plan of Management to achieve this initial goal will be jointly prepared and progressively implemented. All parties to this agreement will co-operate to ensure that a draft Water Quality Management Strategy for Berowra Creek is prepared and placed on exhibition by end of September 1994.

It is acknowledged that Berowra Creek contains excessive levels of nitrogen and high levels of phosphorus. Accordingly appropriate nutrient reduction measures will be implemented forthwith.

To this end the Water Board will install by end July 1994 measures at West Hornsby Sewage Treatment Plant to endeavour to achieve an arithmetic mean of 20 to 25mg/L Total Nitrogen concentration in the discharged effluent. Also the Water Board will make immediate operational changes to reduce phosphorus and faecal coliform concentrations in discharged effluent from West Hornsby Sewage Treatment Plant and Hornsby Heights Sewage Treatment Plant. Furthermore the Water Board will prepare and exhibit by end September 1994 an options study for Hornsby Heights Sewage Treatment Plant and West Hornsby Sewage Treatment Plant. The options study will propose technically feasible measures for further nitrogen reduction. The options of 15mg/L, 10 mg/L and 5mg/L Total Nitrogen (90 percentile) in discharged effluent and pumping effluent out of the catchment are to be specifically considered. The Water Board will prepare and publicly exhibit by end June 1995 an EIS for each of those options which the Technical Working Party established by the Minister for Planning considers feasible and warranting such examination. The Board undertakes that the option approved by the Minister for Planning will be put in operation expeditiously.

Hornsby Council undertakes that it will impose and enforce controls on construction sites so as to significantly reduce the sediment and other pollutants reaching the Creek from these sources. To this end Hornsby Council will prepare and exhibit by end September 1994 a draft Erosion and Sediment Control Code. Hornsby Council will prepare and exhibit by end September 1994 a

B.K.M.
A.S.W.
[Signature]
CL
UB6
NS

revised Stormwater Management Code, a revised Stormwater Design Manual and an Issues Report on the remediation of the existing stormwater system. As part of implementing the Water Quality Management Strategy, Hornsby Council will also expeditiously prepare an options study, environmental assessment and an implementation strategy for reducing storm water nutrient ingress to Berowra Creek. Hornsby Council will utilise the principle of water sensitive urban design in its consideration of future developments.

The Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Trust will prepare and exhibit by end September 1994 a draft public education strategy.

The Water Board, Environment Protection Authority and Hornsby Council shall forthwith commence a catchment survey to identify and quantify sources of pollution so that appropriate remediation and enforcement action can be taken.

The Water Board, Environment Protection Authority and Hornsby Council shall forthwith establish a co-operative monitoring program for the waterways of Berowra Creek so that the effectiveness of changes can be measured and assessed.

The Department of Planning undertakes that it will not introduce any planning measures that are incompatible with the ecological sustainability of Berowra Creek.

Gabrielle Kibble.

G Kibble
Director of Planning

N Shepherd

N Shepherd
Director-General
Environment Protection Authority

Robert Crawford

R Crawford
Chairman
Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Trust

C Meany

C Meany
Mayor
Hornsby Council

P Broad

P Broad
Managing Director
Water Board

*Endorsed,
Robert Wessle*

27/4/94.