



**GEORGES
RIVER
COUNCIL**

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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File Reference: D19/158813, D19/173842

30 July 2019

[REDACTED]
Director Sydney Industry
NSW Environment Protection Authority
PO Box 668
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear [REDACTED]

Pollution Incidents – Kogarah War Memorial Pool (Cars Park Swimming Pool) 74-78 Carwar Avenue, Cars Park

I refer to the above matter and previous correspondence from the EPA to Council specifically dated 9 and 22 July 2019.

As the EPA is aware Council identified two separate point source water pollution incidents associated with the Kogarah War Memorial Pool. The first incident occurred on 2 July due to a discharge from a backwash overflow pipe and the second on 22 July from a subsoil drainage system discharging warm chlorinated water collected from uncontrollable leaks due to the failure of the pool structure.

Whilst Council was able to put measures in place to prevent the water pollution from the first pollution incident, Council was unable to control the leaks in the pool structure which lead to the second incident. In addition to these discharges Council became aware of a third source of water pollution associated with the Pool. Leaks occurring below ground level directly attributed to the pool's age, deteriorated condition and ground subsidence (which were not collected by the subsoil drainage system) have also entered the Georges River via uncontrollable subsoil seepage.

Therefore, I made the decision on 22 July to drain and close the Kogarah War Memorial Pool as this was considered the only practical means available to prevent the continued water pollution of the Georges River.



I note that the EPA's correspondence specifically required Council to:

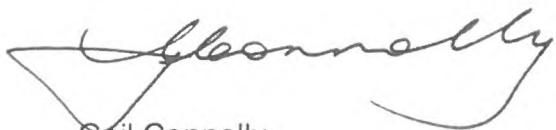
- prepare a management plan outlining proposed backwash management procedures for the Carss Park Pool to be submitted to the EPA by no later than 5pm on 31 July 2019 (EPA letter 9 July) and
- 22 July - undertake immediate action to prevent pool water leaking from the Carss Park Pool into the Georges River (EPA email 22 July).

Council submits that the closure and draining of the pool which was completed on 25 July has addressed both of the above EPA requirements. A follow-up inspection on 30 July confirmed that the subsoil drainage discharge has now ceased flowing.

I would also like to reaffirm that despite misrepresentation in the media and the community at large, Council has never stated that the EPA directed closure of the pool.

Should you require any further information please contact Andrew Spooner, Manager Environment, Health and Regulatory Services on 9330 6413.

Yours sincerely



Gail Connolly
General Manager

