Water supply pipeline proposal in state’s Central West now on display

The community is now able to comment on a proposed 37km pipeline to transfer water from the Macquarie River into the Orange water supply catchment at Suma Park Dam, in the state’s Central West.

The NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure is publicly exhibiting the environmental assessment for just over six weeks from Wednesday 29 August to Monday 15 October 2012.

Orange City Council is proposing to construct and operate the pipeline, pumping stations, transmission line and associated infrastructure in order to supplement the water supply for residents and businesses in Orange.

The proponent’s environmental assessment addresses a number of issues including consideration of alternative water sources and corridors, potential land use conflict, flora and fauna, heritage, surface and groundwater impacts, infrastructure, traffic, noise and visual amenity.

Submissions received during the public exhibition period, along with the proponent’s response to submissions document, will be made available on the department’s website and will be carefully considered as part of the department’s assessment of the project.

The project will also require Commonwealth Government approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act due to its potential impacts on wetlands, threatened species and migratory species.

To comment on the proposal, members of the public are invited to inspect the project’s environmental assessment online at http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au or during regular business hours at:

- Department of Planning and Infrastructure – Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney;
- Orange City Council – Civic Centre, Corner Byng Street and Lords Place, Orange;
- Orange Library – Civic Square, 147 Byng Street, Orange;
- Cabonne Council – 101 Bank Street, Molong;
- Cabonne Council – Environmental Services, Main Street, Cudal; and
- Nature Conservation Council – Level 2/ 5 Wilson Street, Newtown.

Submissions will be made publicly available. Those who do not want their name or other personal details to be made available should clearly state this in their submission.

Submissions can be:

- Faxed to (02) 9228 6455;
• Posted to Major Projects Assessment, Department of Planning & Infrastructure, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001; or
• Emailed to plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au or via the entry for the project on the department’s website http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

Media contact: Laurel-Lee Roderick, (02) 9228 6128 or 0429 153 139

Note: The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is issuing this media release to encourage the community to take part in the planning process. However, it is the role of the proponent (either through its documents published on our website or otherwise) to provide further specific details about the proposal.