

From: [Malcolm Hughes](#)
To: [DPIE Greater Sydney Water Strategy Mailbox](#)
Subject: Submission on the Draft Greater Sydney Water Strategy
Date: Saturday, 6 November 2021 4:12:56 PM
Attachments: [RE Draft Greater Sydney Water Strategy.eml.msg](#)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Greater Sydney Water Strategy. My comments follow:

- 1. Geographically scope of the Strategy** - It is unclear from the document the area to which the Strategy applies. I have been advised that it applies to the area defined for Sydney Water service provision under the *Sydney Water Act, 1994* - see attached email from your office. *Recommendation - the Strategy include a map clearly delineating the area to which it applies* (noting that other Regional Water Strategies do include maps defining the region).
- 2. Remaining Greater Sydney region** - In light of the above and having regard for Figure 1 of the Guide to Regional Water Strategies there appears to be a gap in the proposed approach for strategies for that part of the Greater Sydney Region shown on Figure 1 located outside of the area defined for Sydney Water service provision under the *Sydney Water Act, 1994*. *Recommendation - a separate strategy be prepared for this area and that this be done in consultation with the community.*
- 3. Ensuring water is of a suitable quality** - Water in the Greater Sydney Region is used for a variety of purposes from drinking to recreation and for maintaining healthy aquatic ecosystems. The Strategy should aim to ensure water is of a suitable quality across the region to meet the community values (as defined in and determined by the process in the A & NZ Guidelines for Fresh & Marine Water Quality). This may determine that the quality of water either needs to be maintained or improved depending upon the current water quality at a location and the community values applying at that location. *Recommendation - the Strategy include the following action - Ensure water quality is maintained or improved to meet the community values.*
- 4. Protecting the quality of raw drinking water** - The Greater Sydney region sources most of its water - currently and into the long term - from catchments. Water from these catchments is stored in dams and transferred in conduits (the Upper Canal and the Warragamba to Prospect pipelines) operated by WaterNSW. It is imperative that the quality of water is managed in the catchments, dams and conduits to protect and where necessary enhance the quality. *Recommendation - the Strategy have more emphasis on the importance of protecting, and where necessary enhancing, the quality of raw drinking water in catchments, dams and conduits.*

I would appreciate the opportunity to comment further as the Strategy progresses.

Yours sincerely
Malcolm Hughes