

Water and Wastewater Annual Report

December, 2015



The Water and Wastewater Working Group has been very active this year and can report the following achievements:

- SIRA made written representation to IPART in August 2014 regarding the inclusion of Priority Sewerage Program (PSP) commitments and particularly the timetabling of sewerage connection for Scotland Island during the next licencing period 2015-2020.
- SIRA provided a Q&A sheet to residents in January 2015 about possible sewerage connection for Scotland Island
- SIRA called on residents to write to State Members of Parliament and Local Government Councillors to influence IPART to direct Sydney Water to meet its Priority Sewerage Program (PSP) commitments as previously outlined in their Operating Licence
- SIRA attended a public forum hosted by IPART on 30 March 2015 regarding the end of term review of Sydney Water's operating licence and made verbal representation to have Scotland Island included in the PSP during the current licencing period.
- SIRA wrote to IPART in April 2015 reiterating the health and environmental risks of Sydney Water not connecting the sewerage to Scotland Island.
- SIRA surveyed residents to gauge the level of commitment to connection to the main sewer. The survey of residents indicated that 96% of the 383 respondents want the sewerage connected at a cost similar to that incurred by Dangar Island residents.
- Members of SIRA have met with Rob Stokes the local State Government member and Pittwater Council to progress the connection of sewerage to Scotland Island.
- Members of SIRA met with Niall Blair, Minister for Lands-Water on 26 November to progress the connection of sewerage to Scotland Island.
- All documents are available here: <http://www.scotlandisland.org.au/sira/documents-resources/>

Key Issues for the 2016 Committee

- Scotland Island continues to be the only metropolitan Sydney suburb with no mains services. With 357 residential properties and a population of approximately 1,000 residents this creates a significant health risk and environmental impact on the Pittwater waterway.
- The Island is 200 meters from the mains sewerage line at Church Point
- There is clear evidence of health hazards and environmental degradation
- There has been a previous clear commitment from State Government to connect sewerage to Scotland Island
- Sydney Water clearly has the financial capacity to implement the project, given that it has offered \$100 rebates to its all existing customers.
- Scotland Island residents have been waiting for 30 years for this infrastructure
- The Government needs to direct Sydney Water under the State Owned Corporations Act 1989 (NSW) to schedule the installation of sewerage services on Scotland Island within this current licence term.
- Obtaining quotes from alternate suppliers to install sewerage infrastructure to Scotland Island to compare with the estimates supplied by Sydney Water.
- [View the Water and Wastewater Charter here:](http://www.scotlandisland.org.au/download/sira/charters/Water_and_Wastewater_Charter_V0.pdf)
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