**Position Description**

Catchment Assessment Specialist

**Portfolio: Strategy & Performance**

**Reporting to: Catchment Protection Manager**

## Position Purpose

Provide expert advice and overview of technical assessments and recommendations provided by the Catchment Assessment team in relation to the regulatory framework of the Sydney drinking water catchment. Provide expert advice on State significant developments, infrastructure, stormwater and wastewater management, and put safety first.

## Key Accountabilities

1. **Safety:** ensure all activities are undertaken with the safety of everyone as the number one priority and always role model safe behaviour.
2. **Values**: behave and make decisions in accordance with the WaterNSW Values at all times.
3. Ensure the assessment of development applications requiring the concurrence of the regulatory authority are technically robust and timely.
4. Provide expert advice on proposals external to WaterNSW including State significant developments and infrastructure proposed within the declared catchment area. Influence decisions made by planning and consent authorities under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to help minimise risk to water quality, water quantity, water supply infrastructure and catchment health.
5. Provide expert advice and overview of technical assessments on WaterNSW’s advice and comments on development applications, State significant developments and infrastructure.
6. Ensure WaterNSW concurrence conditions are implemented as required. Ensure concurrence conditions requiring a role for WaterNSW are appropriately implemented.
7. Provide specialist water quality input to the development of assessment tools, guidelines, current recommended practices and standards to assist in the efficient assessment of proposals.
8. Support in the administration, update and training for development assessment tools.
9. Provide specialist support in the assessment, management, monitoring and review of mining activities, and post approval mining operations to ensure impacts on WaterNSW catchments and assets are adequately considered and managed, as required.
10. Provide mentoring and support capability development for the team.

## Key Challenges

* Negotiating with project managers, proponents, and their consultants, agencies, and councils on the contents of development applications, environmental impact assessment documents and consent/approval conditions to ensure WaterNSW’s interests are appropriately addressed.
* Maintaining high levels of customer service, efficiency and effectiveness.
* Ensuring advice is provided within statutory timeframes and maintaining the quality of WaterNSW’s advice and comments.
* Operating in a rapidly changing planning legislative environment.

## Significant Internal Relationships

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Stakeholder | Purpose of Relationship |
| Operations Portfolio | Advice and support. |
| Strategy & Performance Portfolio | Advice and support. |

## Significant External Relationships

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Stakeholder | Purpose of Relationship |
| Local government – development assessment staff | WaterNSW provide concurrence advice and expert technical advice. |
| State government – development assessment staff | Provide expert technical advice on and responses to State Significant Development/Infrastructure proposals |
| Proponents and their consultants | Provide technical advice and WaterNSW’s assessment process for the development |

## Delegations, Financial Accountabilities & Freedom to Act

As defined in the WaterNSW Financial Delegations as varied from time to time.

## WaterNSW Leadership & Performance Competencies

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| People | Level |  |
| Coaching & Developing Others | B | * Supports individual development in line with career aspirations and business requirements * Challenges others to achieve their full potential * Actively listens to others * Supports others to establish meaningful goals * Asks questions to create awareness and encourage self-directed problem solving |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Customer | Level |  |
| Collaboration & Engagement with Stakeholders | B | * Builds and maintains relationships with individuals from other work groups to accomplish shared goals. * Adapts approach to meet the needs of a broad range of customers and stakeholders. |
| Partnering & Advice | C | * Consider broader purpose and the long-term context of the customer when providing advice * Provides sophisticated and value adding insights for customers * Assists customers to explore new ideas and to navigate the road ahead |

| Business | Level |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Analysis and Problem Solving | B | * Defines the extent and cause of the problem through observation and investigation. * Knows when and how to source and use additional information to effectively diagnose the problem and determine suitable solutions. * Considers all possible solutions and seeks input from subject matter experts where appropriate. * Takes necessary action to implement the identified solution. |
| Continuous Improvement | B | * Manages expectations and accepts accountability for deadlines, budget and outcomes. * Delivers consistently to plans and focuses on the achievement of results despite obstacles. * Implements quality assurance practices to ensure projects and activities are delivered to required standards. * Initiates action without prompting. |

**Mandatory Candidate Requirements**

**Qualifications:**

* Tertiary qualifications in Environmental Planning, Engineering, Science, Management, Law or other relevant discipline.
* Current Australian Driver’s Licence.
* Authorised Officer or the ability to become one.

**Knowledge:**

* Extensive knowledge and experience in water quality impact assessment and management, and the related requirements under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
* Knowledge of the issues and management responses in the areas of wastewater, stormwater, groundwater and surface water for activities within drinking water catchment.
* High level liaison, interpersonal, negotiation and communication skills.

**Experience**

* Extensive experience in the provision, co-ordination and review of expert advice in relation to WaterNSW’s regulatory authority role in the Sydney drinking water catchment.
* Extensive experience in managing the assessment process to meet complex timeframes, regulatory environment and quality requirements.
* Experience providing technical leadership and coaching to a small team.

**Favourable Candidate Requirements**

* Experience in the application of State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021.
* Experience in the preparation and/or assessment of stormwater, wastewater managements, and/or erosion and sediment control plans.

**Pre-Employment Checks Required**

* Identification
* Qualifications
* Driver’s Licence
* Pre-Employment Medical – Field Based
* Police Check