

26 November 2015

Penrith City Council
General Manager
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Dear Sir/Madam

**144-150 Mount Vernon Road
MOUNT VERNON NSW 2178
Lot 144 DP 32140**

STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

This statement has been prepared to support the submission of a Development Application (DA) to be lodged with Penrith City Council. The proposal seeks approval for the filling of an existing dam located on 144-150 Mount Vernon Road, Mount Vernon.

The application proposes the filling of the existing dam to the western end of the property. The proposed filling is illustrated on the plans numbered DA00 – DA05, with job number 1215, drawn by Mladen Stancovici. The proposal is also supported by a Hydrologic Assessment prepared by Taylor Thomson Whitting Pty Ltd (submitted with the DA).

The main purpose of filling the dam is to limit the increase of pests such as insects, snakes, rodents and wild birds. Recently we have noticed a significant increase in the number of pests around the site. This has produced safety concerns around the existing dwellings on the site, impacting on the quality of living on the property.

It is in our opinion that the dam be filled. This will significantly enhance the use of the property, by reducing the number of unwanted and dangerous pests such as snakes and spiders. It will also improve the appearance of the property from the street.

Prior discussions with Council engineers has indicated that there is a minor local overland flow over the site. As per the attached report prepared by Taylor Thomson Whitting Pty Ltd, the impact on downstream properties as a result of the filling of the dam will be minimal. Natural overland flow will be maintained.

Outlined below are the landfill requirements of Penrith Council, with comments below:-

- a) Imported fill shall not include putrescible waste (i.e. waste that breaks down) or building material. Clean fill including soil, sand or virgin excavated natural material (VENM) is generally acceptable.
 - *Fill material will be sourced as required by Penrith Council.*
- b) The filled area shall be drained to Council's satisfaction and not impact upon the drainage characteristics of other properties in the catchment area.

- *The filled area shall be drained as per the submitted drawings prepared by Mladen Stancovici and attached report prepared by Taylor Thomson Whitting. The existing overland flow path over the site will be maintained, without impacting the downstream properties.*
- c) The material shall be suitably compacted and treated to prevent runoff and siltation of watercourses.
- *Appropriate erosion and sediment control measures will be applied to the site during work.*
- d) Compaction of filled areas is to be 98% standard compaction and in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, including AS1289 Method of testing soils for engineering purposes and AS3798 Guidelines on earthworks for commercial and residential development, and Council's engineering standards. Compaction certificates are to be submitted to the private certifier or Council.
- *The fill will be compacted appropriately as per Council's DCP*
- e) The finished area shall be revegetated and stabilised to blend the filled area and natural surfaces.
- *The compacted filled area will be re-turfed to match the surrounding area of the site.*
- f) Earth moved from areas containing noxious weed material must be disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility and transported in compliance with the Noxious Weed Act 1993.
- *The dam area does not contain any noxious weed material.*
- g) Fill within 10m of adjoining bushland must not be carried out. Any fill in the vicinity of bushland must only use material from the local area (in order to minimise spread of weeds) and must be carried out in a manner that does not cause adverse impacts to surrounding properties, local drainage systems and existing vegetation. Material which is likely to have an adverse environmental effect due to it being combustible, toxic, hazardous or dangerous must not be used.
- *The site is not within 10m of bushland.*
- h) Fill must not be carried out within the drip line of existing trees.
- *There are no trees surrounding the subject dam.*

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours Faithfully,

Mladen Stancovici
(B.A.Arch, M.Arch)