

From: Liz Smith
Sent: Mon, 7 Dec 2020 09:39:07 +1100
To: Huon Valley Council
Cc: Liz Smith
Subject: PSA 1-2020 representation
Attachments: submission to HVC 7.12.2020.docx

Please find bellow and attached my representation regarding the proposed change to the attenuation zone for the Cygnet Sewage Treatment Plant.

Liz Smith

Emilio Reale,

General Manager,

Huon Valley Council,

Main Street,

Huonville

Dear Mr Reale,

Re PSA 1- 2020 Attenuation zone CTP

I am making this representation in respect of the proposed amendment to the *Interim Huon Valley Planning Scheme 2015* to reduce the attenuation zone of the Cygnet Treatment Plant (CTP) to 200m.

In order to clarify issues raised both by the report to the council and related to population growth, as highlighted by the SGS prepared for the council and dated 12/08/2020, more information should be supplied

The information provided in the October 21 2020 report to the council does not fully document the reasons for the proposed reduction in the attenuation zone, although reference to PSA 2/2017 (considered at the council meeting on September 30) makes it clear that residential use is proposed within the current attenuation zone.

As a close neighbour of the CTP my properties (7332 and 7354 Channel Highway) are within the existing attenuation zone and an relaxation was required to allow single dwellings, each on a separate title, to be constructed 240m from the CTP. I have not experienced odour issues at the house sites which are well above the level of the CTP.

The main concerns relate to (1) whether the CTP will continue to have capacity for the anticipated increase in Cygnet’s population over the next 15 years when demand for dwellings is predicted to be between 419 and 524 (SGS report), (2) the increasing levels of pollution in the waters of Port Cygnet and (3) the accuracy of the position of the proposed new attenuation zone.

(1) Population growth in Cygnet over the past decade has been well outside predictions, as demonstrated by the data in the SGS report:

SGS report – Cygnet Demand and Supply Analysis

2.3 Population growth

The Tasmanian Department of Treasury and Finance has prepared population projections for Tasmania’s Local Government Areas for 25 years (2017 to 2042). Table 1 below shows population forecasts for the Cygnet SA2 based on the population at the 2016 census and the population growth rates for the Huon Valley LGA from the Treasury projections.

The Tasmanian Government’s projections have three series, based on different assumptions -high, medium, and low. The medium and high series are shown here (Table 1).

TABLE 1: POPULATION GROWTH COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT SERIES, CYGNET

Series	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	
	4,266	4,561	4,843	5,111	5,347	High
	4,266	4,522	4,728	4,903	5,049	Medium

On the following page of the SGS Report states that:

“Strong population growth has been evident in Cygnet over the past decade (Figure 2). Between 2010 and 2019 the average annual growth rate was 1.7 per cent per annum. This has increased to 2.4 per cent over the past five years, and 2.9 per cent in the past three. As a result, the figure below also reveals that the population forecast for Cygnet in 2021, using the Treasury growth rates for the Huon Valley (Table 1), has already been met by 2019, even under the high scenario.”

In response to questions from the Cygnet Association, Taswater wrote that “the Cygnet Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) has a hydraulic capacity of 400 kL/day average dry weather flow

(ADWF). The current ADWF at the STP is approximately 270kL/day which means there is some spare capacity in the plant. Updated sewer catchment modelling in 2019, calibrated using actual flow survey data, determined the revised ADWF to be 267kL/day (2025) and 424kL/day (2050).”

It is important that consistent data that can be easily interpreted is provided, and it appears that the revised ADWF of 267 kL per day in 2025 is lower than the current ADWF of 270 kL /day, despite the number of dwellings being predicted to increase from 1,968 in 2020 to 2,247 in 2026. Clarification of this issue should be provided.

(2) Anecdotal reports from residents and boat-owners around Port Cygnet suggest that there have been increasing levels of green slime and seaweed in the area, especially around Martins Point close to the CTP, over the past couple of years. Whether this results from pollution from the CTP or other source(s) is not known. Monitoring of the outflow from the CTP should be undertaken by TasWater before changes to the attenuation zone are made, in order to ensure that water quality in Port Cygnet is maintained and/or improved.

(3) The outline of the proposed attenuation zone overlay of 200m that is drawn on Plan 8 of the report to the council on October 21 (p.53) does not appear to be 200m from the CTP. When viewed online there are two points marked in red that do appear to indicate a distance of 200m. One is adjacent to the property at 7357 Channel Highway and the other in the centre of the CTP. However, the outlined attenuation zone does not go through those two points, but is considerably closer to the CTP, indicating that the attenuation zone is actually less than 200m.

Has an on-ground survey been conducted to confirm that the proposed overlay does represent a 200m attenuation zone?

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a response to the proposed planning scheme amendment.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Smith BSc, PhD, Grad Dip Env Planning

7354 Channel Highway,

Cygnet 7112

Mobile 0478 608 993



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com