



EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION No. 5/2016

I, Wesley Bruce Ford, Director, Environment Protection Authority, issue this authorization under section 34 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (the Act), being satisfied:

(a) that circumstances of urgency exist, being:

- (i) That the energy supply situation due to the historic low lake levels and the failure of the Basslink Interconnector is reaching a point where alternate electricity generation capacity is urgently required; and
- (ii) That there is an urgent need to extend the capacity of the stored energy in the lakes by utilising other means of generation; and
- (iii) That the statutory assessment of the proposed activity under Section 27 of the Act cannot be completed within a reasonable time period to allow the operation of the generators to commence in the timeframe necessary to assist in reducing the pressure on the falling lake levels.

and being satisfied:

(b) that this authorization is justified by the need to protect life, the environment or property because:

- (i) Low lake levels are occasioning environmental pressures in a number of hydro storages and supplementary diesel generation will help to alleviate those pressures at a system level; and
- (ii) That there is an increased risk of the electricity generating infrastructure (being property of Hydro Tasmania) being compromised as lake levels fall due to the potential for effects from cavitation and siltation impacting on the generating equipment and other associated equipment.

hereby authorize Hydro-Electric Corporation (trading as Hydro Tasmania) to operate containerised diesel powered electricity generation units (generators), being a level 2 activity under Schedule 2, clause 7(a) of the Act, subject to the conditions listed in schedule 1 of this Authorization.

Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

This 17th day of March 2016

SCHEDULE 1 Conditions of Authorization

Definitions

Words and expressions used in this Authorization have the meanings given to them in the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*, and the following meanings:

The Activity means the activity authorized by this authorization, being the operation of containerised diesel powered electricity generation units (generators) as described in Attachment 2: **'Project Proposal - Meadowbank Supplementary Diesel Generation, 15 March 2016'** until 31 July 2016, subject to these conditions, and the commitments in the Project Proposal.

Director means the Director, Environment Protection Authority holding office under Section 18 of EMPCA; and includes a person authorised in writing by the Director to exercise a power or function on the Director's behalf.

Environmentally Hazardous Material means any substance or mixture of substances of a nature or held in quantities which present a reasonably foreseeable risk of causing serious or material environmental harm if released to the environment and includes fuels, oils, waste and chemicals but excludes sewage.

The Land: means the land on which The Activity may be carried out and falls within the area defined by the portion of Title Reference 52431/3 depicted on **ATTACHMENT 1** as "Temporary Generation Site" and any other the portion of Title Reference 52431/3 as approved by the Director.

Noise Sensitive Premises means residences and residential zones (whether occupied or not), schools, hospitals, caravan parks and similar land uses involving the presence of individual people for extended periods, except in the course of their employment or for recreation.

Person Responsible is Hydro-Electric Corporation (trading as Hydro Tasmania), or any agent or company engaged by Hydro Tasmania to operate the diesel generators on its behalf.

Stormwater means water traversing the surface of the land as a result of rainfall.

Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual means the Noise Measurement Procedures Manual referred to in regulation 4 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Miscellaneous Noise) Regulations 2014*.

General

G1 Access to and awareness of conditions and associated documents

A copy of these conditions and any associated documents referred to in these conditions must be held in a location that is known to and accessible to the person responsible for the activity. The person responsible for the activity must ensure that all persons who are responsible for undertaking work on The Land, including contractors and sub-contractors, are familiar with these conditions to the extent relevant to their work.

G2 Incident response

If an incident causing or threatening environmental nuisance, serious environmental harm or material environmental harm from pollution occurs in the course of the activity, then the person responsible for the activity must immediately take all reasonable and practicable action to minimise any adverse environmental effects from the incident.

G3 Implementation of submitted documentation

Unless otherwise approved in writing, the person responsible must act and operate in accordance with the **Project Proposal - Meadowbank Supplementary Diesel Generation, 15 March 2016** and commitments contained therein (refer Attachment 2) as may be amended or replaced from time to time with the written agreement of the Director.

G4 Notification prior to commencement

The Director must be notified at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of power generation.

G5 Complaints register

- 1 A public complaints register must be maintained and made available for inspection by an Authorized Officer upon request. The public complaints register must, as a minimum, record the following detail in relation to each complaint received in which it is alleged that environmental harm (including an environmental nuisance) has been caused by the activity:
 - 1.1 the time at which the complaint was received;
 - 1.2 contact details for the complainant (where provided);
 - 1.3 the subject-matter of the complaint;
 - 1.4 any investigations undertaken with regard to the complaint; and
 - 1.5 the manner in which the complaint was resolved, including any mitigation measures implemented.
- 2 Any complaints regarding noise or air emissions are investigated within 48 hours of the complaint being made.
- 3 Complaint records must be maintained for a period of at least 3 years.

G7 Amendment and Revocation

The Director may amend or revoke this authorization and these conditions by notice in writing to the person responsible.

Atmospheric

A1 Control of dust emissions

Dust emissions from The Land must be controlled to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of The Land.

A2 Control of stack emissions

That, in the absence of the Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality) 2004 providing in-stack air quality emission limits for the generators being used, the units are required to operate with the limits set by the USA EPA New Source Performance Standards for Stationary Emergency Tier 2 Limits and that ambient air quality criteria as specified in the *National Environmental Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure*

must be met at the nearest sensitive receptor (residence).

A3 Community advice

The person responsible must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any person (land owners and members of the public) who will be within the area bounded by the 1 hour 246 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ NO₂ 40% concentration contour (provided in figure 9-1, page 20, of *Meadowbank Hydro Power Station Diesel Gent Set Installation – Air Quality Assessment – 8 March 2016*, by Vipac Engineers & Scientists), for an extended period over the duration of the activity, are made aware of the possibility of the presence of ambient NO₂ concentrations that exceed the 1 hour National Standard for exposure set in the *National Environmental Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure*. [Note: modelling by Vipac conclude that the 5600 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ NO₂ eight hour exposure limit for occupational work health and safety requirements will not be exceeded. Workers and contractors are covered under these provisions in other legislation]

A4 Air Monitoring Plan

- 1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, an air monitoring plan that is consistent with and gives effect to commitments 5 and 6 of *Project Proposal - Meadowbank Supplementary Diesel Generation, 15 March 2016* must be submitted to the Director for approval within 14 days of the date of this Authorization.
- 2 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, the person responsible must implement and act in accordance with the approved monitoring plan commencing within 24 hours of receipt of the Director's approval.

Effluent Disposal

E1 Stormwater

- 1 Polluted stormwater that will be discharged from The Land must be collected and treated prior to discharge to the extent necessary to prevent serious or material environmental harm, or environmental nuisance.
- 2 Notwithstanding the above, all stormwater that is discharged from The Land must not carry pollutants such as sediment, oil or grease in quantities or concentrations that are likely to degrade the visual quality of any receiving waters outside The Land.
- 3 All reasonable measures must be implemented to ensure that solids entrained in stormwater are retained on The Land. Such measures may include appropriately sized and maintained sediment settling ponds or detention basins.

Hazardous Substances

H1 Storage and handling of hazardous materials

- 1 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, environmentally hazardous materials held on The Land must be:
 - 1.1 located within impervious bunded areas, spill trays or other containment systems; and
 - 1.2 managed to prevent unauthorised discharge, emission or deposition of pollutants:

- 1.2.1 to soils within the boundary of The Land in a manner that is likely to cause serious environmental harm;
- 1.2.2 to groundwater;
- 1.2.3 to waterways; or
- 1.2.4 beyond the boundary of The Land.

H2 Fuel deliveries

Fuel deliveries may only made between the hours of 0700 and 1800, and are limited to three daily deliveries, unless otherwise approved by the Director.

H3 Spill kits

Spill kits appropriate for the types and volumes of materials handled on The Land must be kept in appropriate locations to assist with the containment of spilt environmentally hazardous materials.

Noise Control

N1 Noise emission limits

- 1 Noise emissions from the activity when measured at any noise sensitive premises in other ownership and expressed as the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level must not exceed:
 - 1.1 40 dB(A) between 2200 hours and 0600 hours (Night time)
- 2 Where the combined level of noise from the activity and the normal ambient noise exceeds the noise levels stated above, this condition will not be considered to be breached unless the noise emissions from the activity are audible and exceed the ambient noise levels by at least 5 dB(A).
- 3 The time interval over which noise levels are averaged must be 10 minutes or an alternative time interval specified in writing by the Director.
- 4 Measured noise levels must be adjusted for tonality, impulsiveness, modulation and low frequency in accordance with the Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual.
- 5 All methods of measurement must be in accordance with the Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual.

N2 Noise complaints

In the event that a noise complaint is received in relation to the activity, the complaint must be reported to the Director within 24 hours.

N3 Noise survey method and reporting

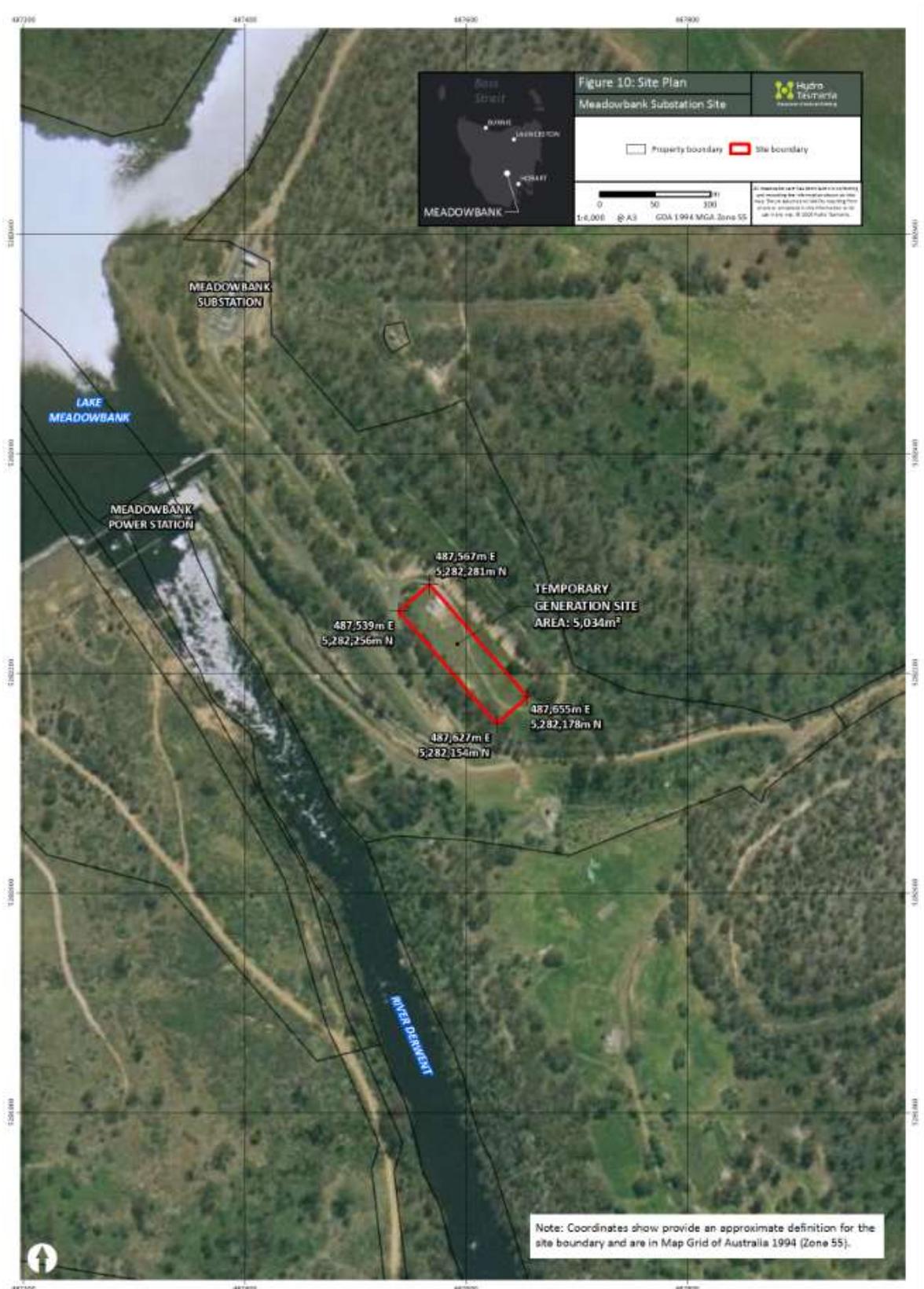
- 1 A noise survey must be undertaken when reasonably required in writing by the Director by a date specified by the Director.
- 2 Prior to undertaking a noise survey as required by this condition, a proposed noise survey method must be submitted to the Director for approval.
- 3 Without limitation, the survey method must address the following:
 - measurements must be carried out at day, evening and night times (where applicable) at each location; and
 - measurement locations, and the number thereof, must be specified, with one location established as a control location (noise).
- 4 Measurements and data recorded during the survey must include:

- operational status of noise producing equipment and throughput of the activity;
 - subjective descriptions of the sound at each location;
 - details of meteorological conditions relevant to the propagation of noise; and
 - the equivalent continuous (L_{eq}) and L_1 , L_{10} , L_{50} , L_{90} and L_{99} A-weighted sound pressure levels measured over a period of 10 minutes or an alternative time interval specified by the Director.
- 5** A noise survey report must be forwarded to the Director within 30 days from the date on which the noise survey is completed
- 6** The noise survey report must include the following:
- the results and interpretation of the measurements required by these conditions;
 - a map of the area surrounding the activity with the boundary of The Land, measurement locations, and noise sensitive premises clearly marked on the map;
 - any other information that will assist with interpreting the results and whether the activity is in compliance with these conditions and EMPCA; and
 - recommendations of appropriate mitigation measures to manage any noise problems identified by the noise survey

ATTACHMENT 1

The Land

(Source: Hydro Tasmania)



ATTACHMENT 2

**[Insert document: 'Project Proposal - Meadowbank Supplementary Diesel Generation,
15 March 2016']**