

30 October 2014

Department of Planning and Environment
23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney
NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY No. 65
(SEPP 65) AND APARTMENT DESIGN GUIDE**

Thank you for the opportunity to make this draft* submission on the proposed changes to the State Environmental Planning Policy No. 65 (SEPP 65) and the new *Apartment Design Guide*.

The Cooks River Alliance strongly supports Part 4V 'water management and conservation' of the *Apartment Design Guide*.

We recommend that water sensitive urban design, as outlined in Part 4V 'water management and conservation' of the *Apartment Design Guide*, be included in SEPP 65 Design Quality Principle 4 (Sustainability) and Principle 5 (Landscape). The SEPP 65 Design Quality Principles list many aspects of 'good design' which are described in the *Apartment Design Guide*, but do not currently include water sensitive urban design.

The Cooks River Alliance advocates for the importance of integrating water cycle management into urban planning and design, through water sensitive urban design. As development of apartments in already highly urbanised areas across Sydney increases, water sensitive urban design has the potential to be highly beneficial for the future health of catchments and important waterways like the Cooks River.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hudson".

Chris Hudson
Project Manager

Cooks River Alliance
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*Please note this submission remains draft until endorsement by the Cooks River Alliance Board, to be determined 11 November 2014.