Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Notification of REFERRAL DECISION – not controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner

Coorong South Lagoon Salinity Reduction Strategy (EPBC 2009/5526)

This decision is made under sections 75 and 77A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Proposed action	
person named in the referral	South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources
	ABN: 36 702 093 234
proposed action	To construct a pipeline from the South Lagoon of the Coorong into Encounter Bay, and pump approximately 250 megalitres per day of hypersaline water from the South Lagoon into the ocean.
Referral decision:	Not a controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner
status of proposed action	The proposed action is not a controlled action provided it is undertaken in the manner set out in this decision.
Person authorised to I	make decision
Name and position	Dr Andrew Weavers
	Acting Assistant Secretary
	Environment Assessment Branch
signature	a. Co
	2 7 July 2010

manner in which proposed action must be taken

The person taking the action must take the following measures to avoid significant impacts on listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 & 18A) and :

- 1. The person taking the action may pump a maximum of 250 megalitres each day from South Lagoon into Encounter Bay.
- 2. The person taking the action will monitor the size of the saline plume from pumping at a minimum:
 - once each week in the first three months of pumping
 - once each month for the rest of the period of pumping
- 3. If the outer extent of the plume is more than 600 m from shore at the surface, the person taking the action will reduce the rate of pumping as required to reduce the extent of the plume to below 600 m, measured on two consecutive days. The extent of the plume will be delineated using a salinity of 37 parts per thousand.
- 4. Each month for the period of pumping, the person taking the action

- will publish on the internet, the volume pumped from South Lagoon each day and the results of all monitoring of the extent of the plume.
- 5. All monitoring requirements are subject to the person taking the action being able to meet South Australian occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements. Should monitoring of the extent of the plume not be completed due to OHS constraints, the person taking the action will meet those monitoring requirements as soon as possible when OHS requirements allow.