

**Submission**

**No 29**

## **INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC WASTEWATER**

**Organisation:** Cessnock City Council  
**Name:** Mr Gareth Curtis  
**Position:** Group Leader Built and Natural Environment  
**Date Received:** 9/01/2012



Committee on Environment and  
Regulation  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY 2000

Contact: Ms Jenny Lange  
Our Ref:  
Your Ref:

Attention: Chris Patterson MP

Dear Sir

## **SUBMISSION TO THE INQUIRY INTO THE MANAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC WASTEWATER**

Cessnock City Council welcomes the inquiry into the Management of Domestic Wastewater and wishes to make the following submission and apologies for the delay in our submission.

As an active member of the Hunter, Central and Lower Mid North Coast Septic Tank Action Group Cessnock City Council's staff endorse the submission from the Chairman, Malcolm Hunter as attached.

In addition to the attached submission Cessnock City Council would like to highlight that a successful and effective domestic wastewater program requires a combined regulatory and education approach. As part of Council's On-Site Sewage Management Strategy Cessnock City Council recognises the importance of education and has implemented an education program titled 'Lifting the Lid' designed to engage owners and householders to take an active role in the management of their on-site system.

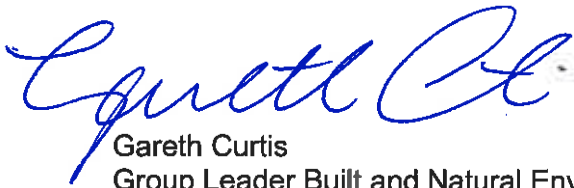
The following activities have been implemented as part of Council's Lifting the Lid program:-

- Information brochures on effective system operation
- New Owners Information Kits
- Advertisement campaign in local newspapers to highlight local and current issues relating to on-site sewage management
- School colouring competition
- Information table at local shopping centre and local markets

As part of the inquiry Council requests that consideration be given to the ongoing support and production of educational materials that can be reproduced and utilised by Council as part of their wastewater management programs. The production of materials at state level will prevent a duplication of resources at a local level and will ensure a consistent message is being delivered to owners of on-site sewage management systems.

Should you wish to discuss this submission in further detail please contact Ms Jenny Lange,  
Environmental Health Team Leader on telephone 4993 4128.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Curtis', is written over the typed name.

Gareth Curtis  
Group Leader Built and Natural Environment

9 January 2012