



Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Coalition
Date Referred: 22/02/2019

Proposal No: Y068
Date Published: 18/03/2019

Proposal Title: Water quality investigations in the Terrigal Beach catchment & Tuggerah Lakes

Cluster: Planning and Environment

General Government Sector Impacts

	2018-19 \$'000	2019-20 \$'000	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	-	700	-	-	700
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Offsets	-	700	-	-	700
Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Net Operating Balance:	-	-	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Offsets	-	-	-	-	-
Net Capital Expenditure:	-	-	-	-	-

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
---------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---

Total State Sector Impacts

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
---------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---

Notes and costing assumptions

The proposal has two policies for the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) to investigate water quality at Terrigal Beach and Tuggerah Lakes in 2019-20.

Policy 1 proposes spending \$500,000 on a scientific audit of the Terrigal Beach catchment to find solutions to improve water quality.

Policy 2 proposes spending \$200,000 establishing an expert committee to investigate and provide options to address water quality issues at Tuggerah Lakes.

The proposal assumes the spending on both policies would be met from the existing resources of OEH.

OEH has forecast operating expenses of \$822 million and total expenses of \$1.17 billion in 2018-19 (See NSW Budget Paper 3 at 7-25). Hence, the \$700,000 expense would be a small part of OEH's overall operating budget. In addition, the spending activities proposed are a normal part of OEH's function. Therefore the PBO considers it is reasonable for the costs of the two policies to be met by OEH's existing budget.

The spending may require a re-prioritisation of OEH's current activities.