



Draft Guidelines

for

Hydrographic
and Geotechnical Data

NSW | MARITIME



1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 Hydrographic data are routinely required for assessment of developments proposed over a waterway. Geotechnical data are routinely required for assessment of developments proposing dredging or other significant disturbance of the seabed.
- 1.2 These Guidelines outline NSW Maritime's minimum requirements for the provision of hydrographic and geotechnical data where required as part of development assessment processes.
- 1.3 The Guidelines will be applied, when required, during the following processes:
- For applications for land owner's consent to make a development application over NSW Maritime's land;
 - For development applications over NSW Maritime's land;
 - For applications under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
 - For applications for construction on NSW Maritime's land, unless otherwise exempted; and
 - For the provision of advice to other consent authorities regarding acceptable standards for hydrographic or geotechnical data provision during development assessment or any other purpose.
- 1.4 The Guidelines have effect from 2009 and apply to all land in the ownership of NSW Maritime. They replace any previous procedures or guidelines to the extent of any inconsistency.
- 1.5 Departures from these Guidelines for any specific application will require written approval from the General Manager of NSW Maritime who is responsible for managing the relevant assessment process as described in 1.3 above.

2. DATA REQUIREMENTS

2.1 General requirements for applications involving dredging

- 2.1.1 Any application which involves dredging must be accompanied by hydrographic and geotechnical data that cover the extent of dredging and batter slopes. At the initial land owner's consent stage the geotechnical data need only be in the form of probings to determine rock levels.

2.2 Hydrographic data requirements

- 2.2.1 Hydrographic data are to be obtained by taking soundings at a maximum spacing of 2.5 metres along lines generally perpendicular to the shoreline and no more than 5 metres apart across the full width of the site frontage.
- 2.2.2 The soundings taken are to cover the area of the proposed facility including any pontoons, mooring pens, fairways, channels etc.
- 2.2.3 A bathymetric contour plan prepared using these data is to be submitted with a 0.5 metre contour interval reduced to the Zero on the Fort Denison Tide Gauge (or the local hydrographic datum in locations outside Sydney Harbour).
- 2.2.4 An “xyz” data file of the soundings, containing eastings and northings in Map Grid of Australia (MGA) co-ordinates and associated depths related to datum, is to be submitted.

2.3 Geotechnical data requirements

- 2.3.1 Geotechnical data are required to be obtained by taking probings at a maximum spacing of 2.5 metres along lines generally perpendicular to the shoreline and no more than 5 metres apart across the full width of the site frontage and adjacent site frontages as required.
- 2.3.2 The probings taken are to cover the area of the proposed facility and any adjoining structures or natural features affected by dredging including long term dredge batters.
- 2.3.3 A bathymetric contour plan prepared using these data is to be submitted with a 0.5 metre contour interval reduced to the Zero on the Fort Denison Tide Gauge (or the local hydrographic datum in locations outside Sydney Harbour).
- 2.3.4 An “xyz” data file of the probings, containing eastings and northings in MGA coordinates and associated depths below datum, is to be submitted.

3. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 Hydrographic data must be prepared and certified by a Certified Professional in Hydrographic Surveying - see www.spatialsciences.org.au for a definition.
- 3.2 Geotechnical data are to be prepared, certified and documented in accordance with Australian Standard 1726 - Geotechnical Site Investigations.
- 3.3 In particular, geotechnical data are to be accompanied by a description of the methods used to obtain such data and noted on any drawings which may be submitted.
- 3.4 The original report including a plan signed by the person/firm engaged to prepare the hydrographic or

geotechnical data must be submitted to NSW Maritime with all applications.

- 3.5 In the case of hydrographic surveys an “Indemnity and Release” is to be provided by the person/firm that prepared the data (see attached Indemnity and Release template).
- 3.6 In the case of geotechnical surveys the person/firm engaged for these tasks should document their competence to perform the role in an Appendix to the original report and an “Indemnity and Release” is to be provided by the person/firm that prepared the data (see attached Indemnity and Release template).
- 3.7 In order to reduce the cost to applicants of obtaining water depth data, NSW Maritime will provide digital data (in DXF or DWG file format) of the foreshore outline and relevant infrastructure in the immediate vicinity of the development site. Arrangements for the transfer of this information by NSW Maritime can be made by contacting NSW Maritime’s Spatial Information Manager.

Published by NSW Maritime
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