

Nahid Mahmud
Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments, Planning and Assessment,
Department of Planning and Environment,
Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124

17 July 2022

Dear Mr Mahmud

Project BSSD-30759158 – Minarah College, Catherine Field 2557

I am a local resident and wish to oppose the proposed Minarah College Development above.

The reasons on which I base my objection are listed below.

Referring to SEARS 20, Social Impact and further referring to the EIS, page 11, a list of scenarios are mentioned as having been investigated. The “Do nothing option resulting in site remaining predominantly rural, unplanned and unserved” is the option I refer to herewith. It is the option the Catherine Field community supports given it is the reason they moved there. They do not see the “rural, unplanned and unserved” description given in the Social Impact Statement as a disadvantage. Rather, they wish for their area to remain as is and that is rural. The EIS admits to the project being in opposition to the community’s desire for it to remain rural. I am others live where we do to enjoy a quiet rural lifestyle.

The Catherine Field community supports the Do-Nothing approach which leaving the site “unplanned”. Construction and operation of Minarah college will not change the “unplanned” nature of Catherine Field given the development is being proposed without any zoning or allocation for a school. This can be seen in nearby Leppington precinct which actually has plans for schools. We are opposing Minarah college as there is no town plan for our community to accommodate a school. The construction of the school will still leave Catherine Field “unplanned”.

The Catherine Field community supports the Do-Nothing approach which leaves the site “unserved”. The construction and operation of Minarah college will not change the “unserved” nature of our Catherine Field. This can be seen for the following reasons,

- No result in better roads. There are no upgrades to the roads proposed beyond the foot print of the school.
- School construction will lead to increased traffic almost tripling it compared to current numbers. The population of Catherine Field will nearly double on any given day. There are just over 1600 local residents but with a school population tipped at being almost 1600 on completion this would mean Catherine Field population would be 3200 approximately.
- Plans in construction offer no water or waste water improvement that would benefit the community. There is no improvement to stormwater amenity. There is no commitment for a sewer to serve the community.
- The architecture is centered around a community that is not in keeping with the local heritage or rural nature of the area
- The local community will not be purchasing education from the school, given they come from a different cultural and religious background to the one that Minarah college will serve.

The proposed development should not go ahead given the development will not change from being “rural, unplanned and unserved”. It will simply become “rural, unplanned and unserved” offering a large school that will accommodate people from outside the community. We do not wish for this.

The EIS, page 11, fails to consider a fourth scenario, where the development takes place outside of our rural Catherine Fields community and locating it in an area planned for development and schools encompassing road, storm and waste water sewer infrastructure. One such location is in the Leppington precinct. This precinct has plans for five school locations. These plans come with services and opportunity for schools to be located within walking distance of public sporting fields for use by schools and local communities

Regarding the SEARs requirements under 9 – Traffic, Transport and Accessibility, I wish to point out the following. Ason Group’s Transport and Accessibility Impact Statement, page 24-25, states “Surveyed Traffic Volumes” having been carried out during a ‘pandemic event’ going on to say “This has a potential impact on the integrity and consistency of any traffic surveys undertaken during this period”. This therefore deems the report inaccurate since not representing ‘completeness, accuracy, quality and clarity’ of the information presented in the EIS.

Until such time as accurately acquired data can be presented and the questions raised in this submission can be answered, I will be opposing the development.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments
Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022 Parramatta NSW 2124
Attention: Nahid Mahmud

July, 2022

Application Number: SSD-30759158 - Minarah College

I request that my private information (name and address) not be disclosed.

I declare that I have / have not made any reportable political donations.

I would like to OPPOSE the proposed Minarah College

Sincerely

Signature: _____

First & Last _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____

