



Mr S Jeffries
Director
Major Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

16 October 2008

Dear Sir

**Submission
Proposed Queensland-Hunter Gas Pipeline
Major Project Application: 06-0286**

I refer to the above major project and the Environment Assessment presently being exhibited.

The Environmental Assessment was considered by Council at its meeting on 15 October 2008 when Council resolved to raise the following issues in respect of the proposal.

(a) Proximity to Public Roads

The location of the pipeline when placed in road reserves and running parallel with the existing formed road, needs to be located and bedded in such a manner that any roadworks or reconstruction of Council's public road infrastructure is not compromised by the location or method of location of the pipeline.

In particular Council is concerned that the used of certain plant, such as heavy weight or vibrating rollers is not restricted by virtue of the location or proximity of the pipeline to the constructed road. Accordingly appropriate clearance distances shall be maintained or the pipeline founded at a depth that ensures no restriction on the use of road plant.

(b) Pullaming Stock Route

Within the Pullaming Stock Route Council has entered into lease arrangements with landowners and irrigators relative to use of parts of the road reserve for irrigation infrastructure.

It is unclear how these potential impediments will be managed in terms of the installation and ongoing maintenance of the pipeline. It is critical that Council's lease arrangements and the installed infrastructure is not compromised or materially damaged by installation of the pipeline.

In this regard it is requested that the proponent liaise with Council relative to existing leases and access/occupation rights that may exist within the Stock Route.

(c) Water Supply Mains

The proposed pipeline will pass through the Blue Vale Road and Orange Grove Road areas.

Council has considerable water supply infrastructure within these areas that may conflict with the gas pipeline location. It is unclear from the contents of the Environmental Assessment as to the precise location of the pipeline. The proponents must consult with Council relative to precise location of water supply infrastructure prior to installation of the gas pipeline.

(d) Effluent Reuse Pipeline

Evaluation of the pipeline suggests that the pipeline will intersect with Council's Effluent Reuse Pipe that transfers treated effluent from the Gunnedah Sewerage Treatment Plant to the irrigation property 'North Gunnible' in the vicinity of Wean Road. Consultation with Council is required to ensure that the integrity of the effluent pipeline is not compromised.

(e) Road Reinstatement and Traffic Management

The project will involve installation within, and crossing of, a variety of road reserves within the Gunnedah Shire LGA – from local roads to the State Highway.

In all regards, Council as the local road Authority, must be informed and provide approvals for any road reinstatement works and traffic control measures. It is expected that dialogue relative to road management issues will be undertaken with Council prior to installation works commencing.

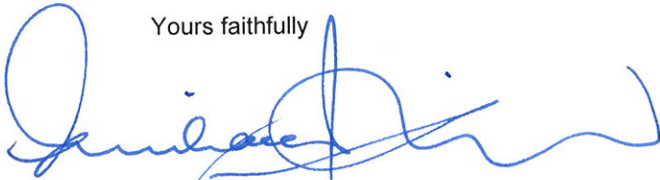
(f) Gas Supply Offtakes

Council request that provision be made within the construction of the pipeline for an offtake connection point and a pressure reducing station to service the town of Gunnedah. The location of such offtake connection point and pressure reducing station for connection of service laterals be negotiated and established with Council prior to construction.

In supporting this request Council notes the significant resource development activity currently occurring in the Gunnedah Basin with commensurate ancillary industrial development that will require an economic and environmentally sustainable energy source. Clearly provision for such an offtake capability would be strategically beneficial, having regard to both the immediate and long term economic development of Gunnedah.

Council fully supports the pipeline proposal and looks forward to the Department's detailed consideration of the matters it has raised, in the determination of the Project Application.

Yours faithfully



Michael J Silver
DIRECTOR PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Contact: MJ Silver 67402120
Reference: 358382/356418