

3. Revised Statement of Commitments

3.1 Final Statement of Commitments

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
Strategic Planning and Project Justification				
To ensure a strategic and justified use of the gas resource and pipeline easement	SP1	Investigate possible connections along the pipeline route for individual or community users	Pre-construction	Section 5.1
	SP2	Investigate potential connections to other gas pipeline networks in NSW and Australia	Pre-construction	
	SP3	Consult with Councils and other providers to determine the potential for use of the pipeline trench by other utilities	Pre-construction	
Land Use Planning				
To minimise land use conflict between the pipeline and land owners/ users	LU1	Effective and inclusive negotiation of easement agreements to ensure all future uses and restrictions are known and agreed to	Pre-construction	Section 5.2
	LU2	Implement a thorough program of ongoing stakeholder consultation to acquire relevant information and identify any issues of concern	All	
	LU3	Work with landowners, management agencies and the community to resolve any identified conflict and reduce impacts	All	
	LU4	Manage, via the CEMP and CMP, any environmental impacts that may negatively affect existing land uses	Construction	
	LU5	Ensure that the RoW is reinstated as soon as practicable after construction and in accordance with landowner requirements	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
<i>Ecology</i>				
To minimise impacts on native flora and fauna	E1	A geomorphic and ecological assessment will be undertaken of all waterway crossings prior to construction. The assessment will be undertaken by suitably qualified professionals and will address a range of issues as identified by NOW. The assessment will be forwarded to NOW, I&I NSW, DECCW and Councils for review.	Pre-construction	Section 5.3
	E2	The Blakely's Red Gum – Yellow Box open woodland located at Scenic Road (KP2.5) will be retained	Pre-construction	
	E3	A pre-clearing survey will be undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist. The need for the establishment of offset areas to maintain or improve biodiversity values will be determined following survey	Pre-construction	
	E4	The RoW will be limited to 30m and HDD work areas to 50m if possible	Construction	
	E5	Open cut construction across watercourses will be completed during dry periods where possible. Use of a reduced RoW construction width, specialist crews and techniques will also minimise time and disturbance	Construction	
	E6	All vegetation clearing will be supervised by a fauna spotter/catcher to prevent impacts on resident fauna	Construction	
	E7	Trenches to be closed as quickly as possible. Fauna ramps at a distance of no greater than 200 metres apart. The length of trench left open at any one time will be minimised wherever possible	Construction	
	E8	Fauna spotters/handlers will be present to inspect trenches at the start and finish of each day, with the task of removing any fauna from the trench and seeking treatment if any animals are injured	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
	E9	Mature trees which may contain hollows, and isolated mature paddock trees will be retained within the RoW wherever possible. These will be located and flagged prior to construction. If hollow-bearing trees are felled they are to be laid on the RoW post construction. Nest boxes are to be installed as close as possible to each felled hollow-bearing tree	Construction	
	E10	Appropriate dust control measures to be employed during construction	Construction	
	E11	Appropriate noise and vibration control measures to be employed during construction	Construction	
To minimise impacts on waterways	E12	Preparation and implementation of a Sediment and Erosion Management Plan (SEMP) prior to, during and post construction of the pipeline. Detail will need to be provided on specific methodologies including, but not limited to managing erosion in watercourses requiring open cutting, heavily eroded watercourses requiring bank re-instatement and works on steep slopes. The Plan is to be provided to DECCW for review	Pre-construction	
	E13	Stockpiling of soil to be completed in compliance with current best practice guidelines	Construction	
	E14	Works will not commence during periods of heavy rain	Construction	
	E15	Areas of bare soil following construction (other than cultivated croplands) will be sown with non-invasive grass seed to prevent erosion	Construction	
To prevent the spread of weeds, pests and disease	E16	A Biosecurity Management Plan (BMP) will be developed prior to, during, and after construction to minimise the potential for the spread of known weeds, pest and diseases. Implementation of the BMP will remain the responsibility of the Principal Contractor, and eventually the Pipeline Operator	All	
To encourage natural	E17	Any dead timber or debris within the construction area will be stockpiled and re-scattered post construction	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
regeneration and undertake appropriate revegetation of the RoW	E18	Any vegetation requiring removal will be mulched and stockpiled to be re-spread over the works area post construction. Weedy vegetation will be removed from the site	Construction	
	E19	Liaison with property owners will be completed prior to works to discuss appropriate areas for revegetation where tree planting projects are disturbed	Pre-construction	
	E20	Regeneration of the RoW post construction to be monitored and seeding and/or enhancement planting undertaken if natural regeneration is not successful	Post-construction	
	E21	A Rehabilitation Plan will be prepared as part of the CEMP. Rehabilitation is to be undertaken in accordance with current best practice and landowner requirements and ensure that the works identified on page 16 of the EA are undertaken. Where a net loss of native riparian vegetation results due to construction activities, ERM Power will attempt to work within the relevant legislative requirements and guidelines such as "Degradation of native riparian vegetation along NSW water courses" (NSW DPI, June 2005) and "Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings" (NSW DPI, undated).	Post-construction	

Heritage

To minimise impacts on sites and objects of Aboriginal heritage values	H1	All identified Aboriginal sites to be avoided	Construction	Section 5.4
	H2	Further consultation to be undertaken with relevant stakeholders	Pre-construction/ construction	
	H3	Monitoring of the construction RoW to ensure site protection and identify any additional sites or objects where present	Construction	
	H4	Survey and impact assessment of land to which access was not granted prior to construction commencing	Pre-construction	
	H5	Contingency plans for unexpected events	Pre-construction/ construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
To minimise impacts on sites and objects of non-Aboriginal heritage values	H6	Work to commence within 25 metres of heritage items if observed during construction and the relevant heritage specialist and government authority to be contacted	Construction	
<i>Human Amenity</i>				
To minimise impacts from noise and vibration	HA1	Regular contact with affected individuals during construction to provide progress updates and notify of any particularly noisy activities	Construction	Section 5.5
	HA2	All construction workers (and any other relevant project employees) must be briefed at induction on relevant environmental management procedures. A comprehensive CEMP will be prepared and it will be mandatory for all pipeline personnel including the Principal, Principal Contractor, Sub-contractors, consultants and visitors to abide by and implement the CEMP	Pre-construction, Construction	
	HA3	Noise and/ or vibration monitoring either in response to complaints or as part of a regular monitoring program	Construction	
	HA4	Scheduling of particularly noisy activities for less sensitive times of the day e.g. not early morning, late afternoon, or outside of standard work hours	Construction	
	HA5	Undertake condition surveys prior to commencement of construction where required	Pre-construction	
	HA6	Consider use of respite times, where no noisy activities are undertaken, if construction is located in one place for longer periods	Construction	
	HA7	Site noisy plant or machinery behind existing barriers such as earth mounds, vegetated screens etc.	Construction	
	HA8	Operate noisy machinery separately rather than concurrently	Construction	
	HA9	Maintain all plant and equipment regularly	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
	HA10	Avoid excessive idling of machinery or vehicles and minimise reversing of vehicles (reduce use of or use substitutes for reversing beeper)	Construction	
	HA11	Locate access roads and ancillary facilities away from residences to minimise traffic noise	Construction	
	HA12	Restrict use of heavy vehicles on existing roads to standard work hours wherever possible	Construction	
	HA13	Use mufflers or quiet technology wherever possible	Construction	
	HA14	Construct noise enclosures or barriers for particularly noisy activities or plant where applicable	Construction	
	HA15	Consider temporary relocation or architectural treatments for particularly affected landowners	Construction	
	HA16	Implement a real time complaints system for noise and other complaints. A telephone number to be provided to all affected residences. All noise complaints are to be investigated within 12 hours of receipt and mitigation measures implemented within 24 hours	Construction	
	HA17	Discuss construction activities and impacts such as noise and vibration as early as practicable once the project commences with affected landowners	Pre-construction	
	HA18	Blasting, if required, will be undertaken in accordance with specific procedural guidelines and with reference to the Guidelines to Minimise Annoyance due to Blasting Overpressure and Ground Vibration (ANZECC 1990)	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
To minimise impacts on air quality	HA19	If work is required within recommended buffers outside of standard work hours the following will be undertaken: • Tonal reversing alarms on vehicles and plant are removed; • Noisy plant is not used in the early morning period between 6-7am; • Rock breaking is not undertaken at night; • An audit of the noise emissions from the selected plant items once the detailed methodology is finalized is conducted and the assessment of buffer distances revised accordingly; • Agreements are negotiated with landowners within the buffers to conduct noisy works outside the standard construction hours with the trade off being that the duration of exposure will be decreased; and • A detailed, real-time complaints handling system is implemented with the commitment to investigated noise levels and stop work if required when complaints are received.	Construction	
	HA20	Air quality monitoring near sensitive receptors either in response to complaints or as part of a regular monitoring program	Construction	
	HA21	Regular watering of the RoW, any relevant stockpiles and unsealed roads	Construction	
	HA22	Road sweeping of dust accumulating on sealed roads	Construction	
	HA23	Disturbed areas to be revegetated and/ or stabilised as soon as possible after construction complete	Construction	
	HA24	Clearing, grading and excavating to be avoided wherever possible in windy conditions i.e. when wind speeds over 40 km/h are experienced or predicted	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
	HA25	Speed limits to be imposed for all traffic on the RoW and access roads	Construction	
	HA26	Grids and/ or wheel wash facilities at RoW and ancillary facility exits	Construction	
	HA27	All loose material loads eg sand, mulch, spoil etc., to be covered	Construction	
	HA28	Vehicles and machinery to be regularly maintained and cleaned	Construction	
	HA29	Reduce vehicle and machinery idling and revving	Construction	
	HA30	Vehicles and machinery to be fitted or purchased with emission reduction technology wherever possible	Construction	
	HA31	Encourage car pooling by employees to work and to site	Construction	
To minimise impacts on visual amenity	HA32	The RoW to be reinstated and revegetated as soon as practicable after completion of construction	Construction	
	HA33	The RoW and ancillary facilities to be kept orderly and clean at all times	Construction	
	HA34	Final cleanup to ensure all rubbish, construction materials, flagging tape etc. is removed from the easement	Construction	
<i>Socio-economic Impacts</i>				
To minimise impacts on the socio-economic environment of the locality	SE1	Local and regional publicity regarding construction timeframes and works	Construction	Section 5.6
	SE2	Fair compensation to landowners for easements acquisition or associated losses	Pre-construction	
	SE3	Negotiation with landowners regarding access to private property	Pre-construction	
	SE4	Provision of local employment opportunities and purchase of local materials wherever possible	Construction	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
	SE5	Accommodate workers in town and villages instead of construction camps wherever possible	Construction	

Hazards and Risks

To identify and manage all risks associated with construction, operation and decommissioning of the pipeline	HR1	A FHA to be prepared prior to construction to further define the risks and management required once detailed pipeline design is finalised. The FHA will consider a number of issues including; decommissioning requirements, deliberate damage to the pipe, fire risk, site specific agricultural activities, ageing infrastructure, lack of funds for reparation, host geology, monitoring data interpretation and management etc. The FHA will be forwarded to Councils and recommendations incorporated into the CMP	Pre-construction	Section 5.7
	HR2	A geotechnical assessment of the entire proposed route will be undertaken prior to construction. The assessment will identify any construction, operation and decommissioning risks associated with the host geology. Design specification and construction methodology will be prescribed accordingly.	Pre-construction	
To minimise risk to public safety	HR3	Restrict access to construction areas	Construction	
	HR4	Effective communication to landowners and the general public regarding potential safety issues	Construction	
	HR5	Adequate management of increased traffic	Construction	
	HR6	Easement agreements to address any safety issues and requirements	Pre-construction	
	HR7	Marker signs and tape to be installed as per AS2885 to locate the pipeline position. Hard and soft copies of the pipeline location can be provided to Councils and landowners	Post-construction	

Surface and Ground Water

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
To minimise impacts on waterways	W1	A geomorphic and ecological assessment will be undertaken of all waterway crossings prior to construction. The assessment will be undertaken by suitably qualified professionals and will address a range of issues as identified by NOW. The assessment will be forwarded to NOW, I&I NSW, DECCW and Councils for review.	Pre-construction	Section 5.8
	W2	Following assessment, detailed designs and procedures will be prepared for each waterway crossing (or type) in accordance with all relevant policies, guidelines and legislation. Designs, methodologies, mitigation and rehabilitation to be included in the CMP forwarded to NOW, I&I NSW and DECCW for review. Contingency plans for loss of equipment (including notification of the appropriate I&I NSW officer) during directional drilling also to be included	Pre-construction	
	W3	I&I NSW, NOW and DECCW to be notified of the construction and removal (program of works) of all waterway crossings.	Construction	
	W4	Hydro-test water will not be discharged directly to natural water bodies	Construction	
	W5	The quality of hydro-test water will be determined prior to its disposal and if appropriate the discarded water will be supplied for beneficial use in consultation with landowners. Water quality will be tested against Waste Classification Guideline: Part 1-4 (DECC 2008). Where water is not suitable for beneficial use it will be disposed of to land typically through a settling basin with erosion control. This will be determined in consultation with landowners	Construction	
	W6	Requisite licenses under Water Sharing Plans and/ or the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> will be sought prior to construction	Pre-construction/ Construction	
	W7	No vehicle access over waterways during pipeline operation	Operation	

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
To minimise impacts on groundwater	W8	Where significant groundwater hosted by a permeable lithology is encountered, i.e. a discharging spring, the trench immediately downslope from the discharge zone should be backfilled and sealed using bentonite or equivalent to prevent change in the groundwater flow	Construction	
	W9	Areas of unconsolidated sediment found during trenching should be directionally drilled from points outside the unconsolidated unit to avoid disturbance of groundwater systems potentially present	Construction	
	W10	The trench to be filled with material matching the porosity/permeability of the unit found in the section of trench. Ideally this material would be the spoil from the trenching operations in the affected section. If the trenched materials are layered (topsoil, subsoil, clays, gravels) efforts should be made to replace the different materials back in the trench in their original order	Construction	
To ensure access to an adequate and equitable supply of water for construction	W11	Ongoing liaison to be undertaken with relevant agencies regarding access to water supplies	Pre-construction/ construction	
<i>Infrastructure</i>				
To minimise impacts on existing infrastructure	I1	All infrastructure crossings buried and above ground will be surveyed and located during detailed route survey and design. Consultation will be undertaken with Councils to assist with location	Pre-construction/ construction	Section 5.9
	I2	Prior to construction all buried services will be physically located by pot holing or by controlled excavation	Pre-construction/ construction	
	I3	Provide Councils with works as executed plans	Post-construction	
<i>Traffic and Transport</i>				

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
To minimise impacts on traffic and transport networks in the locality	T1	A Traffic Management Plan will be prepared prior to work commencing. This plan will provide all personnel involved in management and construction of the pipeline with systems and procedures for managing traffic including: • Traffic route selection • Hours of operation • Scheduling movements of oversized vehicles, including specialised heavy machinery and pipes, to avoid peak times • Reinstatement of excavated road surfaces and road shoulders • Management of noise impacts and complaints • Safe work practices	Pre-construction	Section 5.10
To reduce impacts from increased traffic and transport as a result of the project.	T2	Construction noise and vibration management measures, where relevant, to be employed to minimise impacts from traffic noise (see commitments HA1-HA17 above)	Construction	
	T3	Publicity in local communities will increase local driver awareness of construction and the temporary increase in vehicle movements	Construction	
	T4	Road crossings will be under-bored in the Cowra and Young Shires in accordance with relevant Council policy. Where under-boring is not possible in the Cowra LGA, a report outlining justification will be provided to Council. The requisite permits will be sought from all Councils prior to construction. Vehicle access details also to be provided to Young Council as requested.	Pre-construction/ Construction	
Waste and Hazardous Materials				
To ensure all waste material is managed appropriately	WH1	All waste to be classified as per the Waste Classification Guidelines (DECCW 2009) and managed in accordance with the general principles for management of each class (refer Section 5.11.3). The Waste Management Plan, in the CEMP, will be forwarded to the DECCW for review	Construction	Section 5.11

Objective	Ref. No.	Commitment	Project Stage	EA Section Reference/s
To minimise the risk of pollution	WH2	The WMP will outline specific procedures and the emergency response for spills of any liquid or hazardous wastes or the uncovering of any potential or actual contaminated site	Pre-construction/ construction	
<i>Community and Stakeholder Consultation</i>				
To ensure effective and ongoing consultation over the life of the project	CC1	Community and Stakeholder Consultation Plan to be prepared prior to construction. The Plan to be implemented before and during construction	Pre-construction/ construction	Section 5.12
<i>Ancillary Facilities</i>				
To minimise environmental and social impacts from construction of temporary ancillary facilities	AF1	Temporary ancillary facilities will be established, maintained and decommissioned in accordance with approval requirements, landowner requests, cultural heritage issues and environmental conditions	Pre-construction	Section 2.4.1
<i>Route Realignment</i>				
To minimise environmental and social impacts from any required route realignments	RR1	If realignment of the route is required outside of the corridor assessed for this application, appropriate investigation, assessment and management of any cultural heritage, ecological, landowner or construction issues will be undertaken. Similarly, assessment of the appropriate route across properties where access has not yet been granted will be undertaken in consultation with landowners	Pre-construction	Section 2.3.2
<i>Maintenance Period</i>				
Enable an adequate period of maintenance of the pipeline post construction	M1	The pipeline construction contractor (or other relevant organisation) will be liable for a 24 month maintenance period after construction is complete.	Post-construction	

Appendix A – Public Submissions



Office of Water

Neville Osborne
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Contact: Jodie Dabovic
Phone: 02 4904 2571
Fax: 02 4904 2501
Email: Jodie.Dabovic@water.nsw.gov.au

24 June 2010

Our ref: ER20682
Your ref: S09/00763

Attention: Anna Timbrell

Dear Anna

Subject: Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline (MP 09_0143)

The NSW Office of Water (NOW) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline.

NOW requires under a conditional approval that a geomorphic and ecological assessment of all watercourses that are to be impacted by the pipeline construction to be conducted by suitably qualified consultants. The geomorphic assessment is to be based upon River Styles and is to include the stream order for each of the 177 watercourse crossings. The ecological assessment is to include an assessment of riparian vegetation and weed infestation; presence of threatened species or ecological communities; the identification of any Groundwater Dependant Ecosystems (GDE's) and aquatic habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates; water quality; environmental and base flow requirements and landholder usage. Both assessments are to also include a risk assessment and potential for rehabilitation of the impacted area.

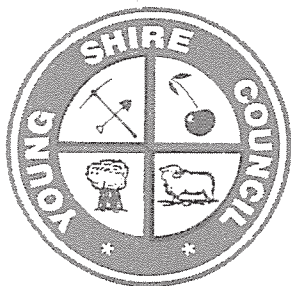
A Construction Management Plan (CMP) is also to be prepared (based upon the assessments) to include crossing design methodologies, mitigation and rehabilitation measures. Both the geomorphic and ecological assessment and CMP are to be forwarded to NOW for review prior to the commencement of pipeline construction.

Any dewatering of alluvium and surface water during the pipeline crossing construction works are required to be licensed under the *Water Management Act 2000* and the associated water sharing plans of the *Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers WSP 2004*, *Lachlan Regulated River WSP 2004* and *Mandagery Creek WSP 2004*.

If you require further information please contact Jodie Dabovic on 4904 2571 at the Newcastle office.

Yours sincerely

Mark Mignanelli
Manager
Major Projects and Assessment
NSW Office of Water
Newcastle



ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE
GENERAL MANAGER

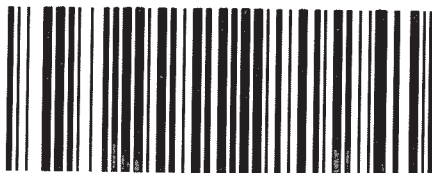
16 July, 2010

Mr N Osborne
Team Leader – Water and Energy
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning
PO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Young Shire Council

Locked Bag 5

1 Short Street
YOUNG NSW 2594



PCU007810

General Enquiries,
Finance & Administration: (02) 6380 1200
Environmental & Planning: (02) 6380 1203
Engineering & Utilities: (02) 6380 1215

FAX: (02) 6380 1299

Email: mail@young.nsw.gov.au
Web: <http://www.young.nsw.gov.au>

Your Ref: S09/00763

Our Ref: 29.02/LS:LS/76020

Contact: L Schweiger

Department of Planning
Received
21 JUL 2010
Scanning Room

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: PROPOSED YOUNG TO WELLINGTON GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

Council acknowledges the receipt of your letter dated 3rd June 2010 and advise that the environmental assessment (EA) for this project was placed on display as requested.

Further to this, it is advised that Council has no objection to the proposal, but provides the following comments on the proposal:

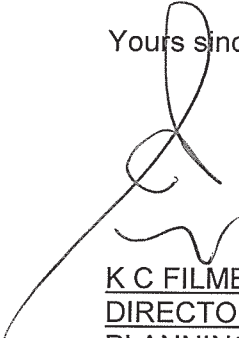
1. Road crossings – Council requires all road crossings in Young Shire be undertaken using underboring, in accordance with Council's policy "Water Services – Beneath Road (Rural Roads), copy attached (this includes the need for a road opening permit).
2. Prior to commissioning the pipeline, Council requests that a works as executed plan showing the location of the pipeline be submitted to Council. This shall be in both a paper form and an electronic version compatible with MapInfo, to enable the digital data to be incorporated with Council's geographic information system. This is critical to Council to ensure any future development applications in the vicinity of the pipeline are adequately assessed and that the integrity of the pipeline is not compromised.
3. Council wishes to advise that since the preparation of the EA, Young has exhibited its draft LEP, and it is currently awaiting gazettal, which Council believes to be imminent and certain. It appears that the route of the proposed pipeline will pass through the RU1 Primary Production Zone, which is an equivalent zone to the current 1(a1) Zone.
4. The EA states that there are fifteen (15) dwellings along the pipeline route that do not comply with the recommended minimum separation distance (page 86 Volume 1), and Council notes that a final hazard analysis (FHA) will be prepared to determine the relevant management for these sites prior to construction. Should

any of these dwellings be located in Young Shire, Council would appreciate details of the dwellings and a copy of the FHA.

5. Council notes that the EA identifies an endangered ecological community (EEC) along the Scenic Road and note that the road will be underbored and that no trees will be removed, which is satisfactory to Council.
6. Any new vehicle accesses (temporary or permanent) shall be approved by Council prior to work commencing on the access, following lodgement of an application under the Roads Act and receipt of approval.
7. The EA states that water is required for dust suppression, camp facilities and hydrostatic testing, and that water is to be sourced from town water supplies, bores, dams or watercourses (page 88 Volume 1). It should be noted that Council does not have a reticulated supply in the area of the proposed pipeline. However, Cowra Shire Council supplies water to both the villages of Bendick Murrell and Koorawatha, which are located in Young Shire in the general vicinity of the Pipeline.

It is again reiterated that Young Shire has no objection to the proposal and is supportive of the development, subject to consideration of the above matters. Should you require any additional information please contact Council on (02) 6380 1203.

Yours sincerely,



K C FILMER
DIRECTOR
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT



WATER SERVICES – BENEATH ROAD (RURAL ROADS)

Conditions relating to the installation of water pipes across roads:

1. Applications to be in writing.
2. A road opening permit must be obtained after Council approves a Traffic Control Plan.
3. The Minimum depth of cover to be 600mm in the table drain.
4. The pipe to be encased in an outer conduit to allow ready repair or access and upgrading of the supply.
5. all installation works on sealed and main gravel road shall be underbored between boundaries
6. Signs indicating the water line are to be located adjacent to the back cut of the table drain and / or fencelines.

Date Adopted: 17.3.10

Resolution No. 43/10



PCU007682

13 July 2010

Director
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Email - 13/7/10
COPY

Department of Planning
Received
16 JUL 2010
Scanning Room

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Exhibition of Environmental Assessment - Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline
Application Reference Number MP 09_0143**

I refer to the exhibition of the Environmental Assessment relating to the Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline and thank you for the opportunity to comment on the development

At its Committee meeting held on 12 July, Council resolved to make the following submissions in relation to the development.

1. All Cowra Shire Roads are to be under bored. Where this objective is not possible ERM (or its construction contractor) provide a report to Council setting out the particulars of the site, the reasons for inability to under bore and obtain relevant approvals under the Roads Act 1993.
2. All rivers, creeks and waterways are to be tunnelled. Where this objective is not possible ERM (or its construction contractor) provide Council with a copy of the site specific assessment detailed in Part 5.8.1. of the Environmental Assessment including reasons for the inability to tunnel.
3. All water supply pipelines being identified by the proponent and consultation undertaken with Council prior to the commencement of gas pipeline installation.
4. Further information being requested from the applicant to determine the need for a construction camp(s), with Cowra Council's preference being for the pipeline workforce to be accommodated within existing towns located along the pipeline corridor.
5. The Statement of Commitments (detailed on pages 115 – 125) to include a maintenance period of at least 24 months whereby the applicant is responsible for the management of weeds, soil erosion, etc.

Yours faithfully

Paul Devery
General Manager



Phone: 02 6392 3247 THE GENERAL MANAGER Doc ID: 192537
Fax: 02 6392 3260 POST OFFICE BOX 17 Your Ref: HN:DW
Contact: Heather Nicholls Website: www.cabonne.nsw.gov.au ABN: 41992 919 200
Date: 23 July 2010 Email: council@cabonne.nsw.gov.au

Director
Infrastructure Projects
Dept of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Exhibition of Environmental Assessment – Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline
Application Reference Number MP 09-0143**

Cabonne Council has given consideration to the proposal for the gas pipeline between Young and Wellington and generally supports the proposal.

It is noted that there may be property owners of rural land within proximity to the proposed pipeline who currently have subdivision approvals that are yet to be enacted upon. Hence there may be additional subdivision patterns to be identified beyond those identified by use of land mapping systems. This relates in particular to the creation of life style lots known as concessional lots. Further investigation of this matter may be required as part of the assessment of the proposal.

Council has noted the close proximity of the proposed gas line to the townships of Canowindra, Cudal, Manildra, Molong and Cumnock and is keen to identify and discuss any potential for junctions to be provided at each of these locations should there be any potential for future servicing of those communities, and in particular the major industrial businesses presently established at Manildra.

It is noted the pipeline crosses or is in proximity to road infrastructure, as well as creek crossings. A preliminary examination of the proposed location of the route does not raise any initial concern and Council looks forward to further discussions with the proponent to ensure minimal impact upon the environment and infrastructure.

Yours faithfully,

HJ Nicholls

Director Environmental Services



**A WBC STRATEGIC ALLIANCE PARTNER
“WORKING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES”**



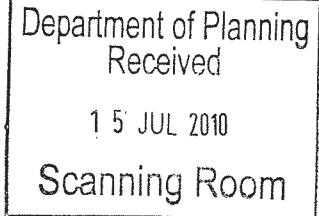


Industry & Investment



08/6733
OUT10/10414

Mr Neville Osborne
Team Leader – Energy and Water
Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Attention: Anna Timbrell

Dear Anna

Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline (MP 09_0143) - Part 3A Project

Thank you for letter dated 9 June 2010 inviting a submission for Industry and Investment NSW in relation to the above development proposal. The issues in relation to agricultural land have been addressed, in terms of landholder consultation and rehabilitation process.

Mineral Issues

I&I NSW notes that the proponent has contacted all current mineral title holders along the proposed pipeline route and that ongoing consultation will take place. Further liaison with I&I NSW is required to finalise the pipeline route, in order to maintain access to a potential limestone resource near Gregra. For further information and liaison to finalise the pipeline route near Gregra please contact Gary Burton, Senior Geologist on 02 6360 5330 or email gary.burton@industry.nsw.gov.au.

Fisheries Issues

I&I NSW are responsible for ensuring that fish stocks are conserved and that there is "no net loss" of key fish habitats upon which they depend. To achieve this, the Department ensures that developments comply with the requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (namely the aquatic habitat protection and threatened species conservation provisions in Parts 7 and 7A of the Act respectively) and the associated *Policy and Guidelines for Aquatic Habitat Management and Fish Conservation (1999)*.

Waterway crossings

It is noted that an easement and roadway system will be used as part of the construction and future maintenance of the pipeline, which will involve the construction of 177 temporary waterway crossings. The construction of waterway crossings should be in accordance with I&I NSW Guideline document: *Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings*. This is to ensure that the works are designed and constructed in accordance with best management practice and with minimal impact on the aquatic environment within the immediate vicinity of the proposed works. These temporary crossings must be removed immediately upon completion of the various stages of the pipeline.

Loss of Riparian Vegetation

The proposal outlines that there may be a loss of riparian vegetation at creeks which are open cut. Loss of native riparian vegetation on the banks needs to be kept to a minimum. *The degradation of native riparian vegetation* has been listed as a Key Threatening Process under the provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. I&I NSW (Fisheries) have a 'no net loss' policy to ensure that that fish stocks are conserved and the key fish habitats upon which fish depend on is conserved. To achieve this, compensatory habitats are often a requirement if the environmental assessment indicates that there will be a net loss of aquatic or riparian habitats. Compensatory habitats are usually calculated on a 2:1 basis and usually require replacement of one habitat with a similar habitat type. Where riparian loss occurs (e.g. 15 metre riparian zones) there needs to be rehabilitation /replanting within the riparian zone.

Directional drilling & Trenching

My Department supports the use of directional drilling under larger waterways. I&I NSW (Fisheries) will require consultation at the detailed design stage particularly for major waterways such as the Macquarie, Belubula, Bell and Lachlan Rivers and Bourimblah and Borree Creeks. While directional drilling generally achieves good outcomes, it is highlighted that appropriate contingency actions be detailed addressing potential problems that could be experienced during the process.

Conditions of Consent

The EA addresses most of the assessment and ameliorative requirements of such a project, however the department would like to see some of our major issues reflected in the conditions of consent as outlined below;

A notification system must be in place for the 177 waterway crossings to ensure that I&I NSW (Fisheries) are notified prior to construction of the waterway crossings and upon removal of the crossings. These waterway crossings will be subjected to audits by Fisheries staff.

A vegetation rehabilitation plan is established to rehabilitate the riparian zone where works result in a loss of riparian vegetation.

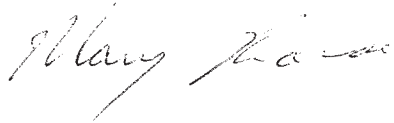
Detailed Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plans are developed for all trenching, directional drilling and construction of waterway crossings. The plans are to include the management of spoil, effluent and slurry material from entering waterways.

Recovery/Contingency plans are in place to recover damaged directional drilling apparatus. The Fisheries Conservation Manager, Tamworth, should be contacted immediately if such problems are encountered during the works that require dredging/reclamation activities within the Macquarie, Belubula, Bell or Lachlan Rivers or Bourimblah and Borree Creeks.

Should you require further clarification on the above issues, please contact the Fisheries Conservation Manager, David Ward on 6763 1255 or 0429 908856.

Should you have any further general enquiries in relation to this response please contact myself on 63913591 (In Orange until mid August) or 0427 949987.

Yours sincerely

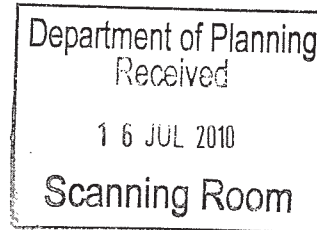
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mary Kovac'.

Mary Kovac
Resource Management Officer
Central and Far West
12 July 2010

Our reference: DOC10/25229 & FIL09/8173
Contact: Sheridan Ledger, (02) 6332 7608



Mr Neville Osborne
Team Leader - Energy and Water
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



14 July 2010

Dear Mr Osborne

I refer to the Environmental Assessment (EA) provided for the proposed Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline received by the Bathurst office of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) on 16 June 2010. DECCW apologies for the delay in providing this response.

DECCW has reviewed the information in the EA and has determined that it is able to support the proposal subject to the Department of Planning (DoP) seeking the important amendments to the draft Statement of Commitments as identified in Attachment 1. Of note to DECCW is the lack detail in the EA pertaining to erosion and sediment controls and waste management. Due to the lack of detail provided, DECCW is unable to provide DoP with detailed comment on these issues.

It is expected that DECCW will be given the opportunity to review the draft Director-General's Environmental Assessment report for this proposal. If the amendments to the draft Statement of Commitments are not included to the satisfaction of DECCW, we will be recommending that they are included as Conditions of Approval, if approval is recommended by DoP.

DECCW would also appreciate receiving a copy of the submissions received by the DoP (or a report summarising these submissions) in response to the exhibition of the EA. This is to assist DECCW to review the draft Director-General's report and to recommend conditions of approval, if required.

Should you have any queries regarding DECCW's submission, please contact Sheridan Ledger at DECCW's Bathurst Regional Office on (02) 6332 7608.

Yours sincerely

RICHARD WHYTE
Manager Bathurst
Environment Protection and Regulation

Enclosure: Attachment 1 – Proposed Amendments to draft Statement of Commitments, Assessment and Justification

The Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW is now known as the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water

PO Box 1388 Bathurst NSW 2795
203-209 Russell Street Bathurst NSW
Tel: (02) 6332 7600 Fax: (02) 6332 7630
ABN 30 841 387 271
www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Department of **Environment and Climate Change** NSW



ATTACHMENT 1

Proposed Amendments to the draft Statement of Commitments contained in Section 6 of the Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline Environmental Assessment

DECCW finds the draft Statement of Commitments to be generally adequate, though recommends that DoP require the draft Statement of Commitments be amended and/or include the following:

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

DECCW concurs with the recommendations included in Section 10 pages 115 – 125 of Technical Report 3 – Cultural Heritage Assessment and Consultation and considers that these recommendations should be included in the Statement of Commitments to adequately protect Aboriginal heritage. Alternatively, DoP may consider reviewing the recommendations and formulating conditions of consent based on these recommendations.

DECCW is concerned that 4.4% of the easement has not yet been surveyed due to access issues. In light of this DECCW recommend that DoP ensure that a suitably skilled and qualified archaeologist assisted by representatives of the registered Aboriginal stakeholders be present prior to and during construction, in order to:

- identify if significant Aboriginal objects are at threat from the proposal and if so record them for the purposes of registering them in the DECCW AHIMS database;
- determine suitable protective measures for Aboriginal objects threatened by the development;
- if avoidance of threat cannot be achieved DECCW requests that a suitable salvage program be implemented that reflects the nature of the object(s) and context.
- if no objects are visible prior to construction then DECCW requests that the archaeologist be present to monitor works for subsurface objects in areas that have been identified as likely to have evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

Air

DECCW is of the opinion that the air impact assessment generally addresses potential air quality issues associated with this proposal. DECCW considers that dust generated by vehicular access of unsealed roads is likely to be one of the main sources of air emissions from the proposal and therefore requests that Statement of Commitment HA19 be amended to:

“Regular watering of the RoW, any relevant stockpiles and unsealed roads”

DECCW notes on page 15 of the Environmental Assessment that once laid, pipes will be grit blasted and a protective coating applied. The Environmental Assessment does not include an assessment of the potential impacts of these works nor does it provide any mitigation measures to address the potential impacts. DECCW recommends that DoP request the proponent to provide further details about this issue.

Ecology

DECCW notes that the proponent has proposed a number of measures to avoid and mitigate impacts on biodiversity values. However, to ensure a maintain or improve outcome, an offset is required for the loss of the native vegetation along the length of the pipeline and the Endangered

Ecological Community at KP121.4. DECCW recommends the use of the Biobanking Assessment Methodology to assess and determine the specific offset requirements. Further it is noted that the proponent will need to negotiate with local landcare groups regarding the replacement of native tree plantings impacted by construction of the proposed pipeline. DECCW suggests that provision of an offset could be incorporated in these negotiations.

In regards to the Statement of Commitments, DECCW recommends the following:

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

"Provide a biodiversity offset that satisfies maintain or improve biodiversity values."

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

"The Blakely's Red Gum – Yellow Box open woodland located at Scenic Road (KP2.5) will be retained."

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

"The boundaries of the construction of the right-of-way (RoW) will be limited to 30 m and Horizontal Directional Drilling work areas limited to 50 m."

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

"If a hollow-bearing tree requires removal, it will be placed on the ground with other litter and debris following construction. Nest boxes will be established to replace any hollow-bearing tree removed in the nearest location practicable location."

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

"A pre-clearance survey will be undertaken prior to any vegetation clearing undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced Ecologist."

Noise

DECCW notes that construction works are proposed to occur 6 am to 6 pm, seven days per week. DECCW's *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* recommends that construction work be limited to 7 am - 6 pm Monday to Friday, 8 am - 1 pm on Saturday and no work on Sundays. To minimise the impacts on residents outside of the normal construction hours, DECCW recommends that:

- The proponent complies with the buffer distances included in Table 8 page 14 of Technical Report 6. That is, works are to be limited to standard construction hours when works are to be conducted within the nominated distance of sensitive receivers.
- The proponent conducts an audit of the noise emissions from the selected plant items once the detailed methodology is finalised and to revise the buffer distances accordingly.
- Rock breaking is not undertaken outside of the standard construction hours.
- Non-tonal reversing alarms are fitted to all plant.
- A real-time complaints handling system is implemented.

In regards to the Statement of Commitments, DECCW recommends the following:

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

“Implement a real time complaints system which allows residents to easily contact the Principal Contractor. A telephone complaints number is to be provided to all affected residences.”

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

“All noise complaints will be investigated within 12 hours of the receipt of a complaint and where required, mitigation measures implemented within 24 hours of the receipt of the complaint.”

- Commitment HA2 be amended to:

“All construction workers (and any other relevant project employees) must be briefed at induction on all relevant environmental management procedures. A comprehensive Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be prepared and it will be mandatory for all pipeline personnel including the Principal, Principal Contractor, Sub-Contractors, associated consultants and all visitors to abide by and implement all directions in the CEMP.”

Please note that the above was included in the mitigation measures in Technical Report 2 – Ecological Assessment.

Water

DECCW notes that there will be 177 water crossings along the pipeline route, of which nine (9) are perennial waterways. Further, four (4) of the nine (9) will be crossed utilising Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) techniques, with the method for two (2) of the remaining five (5) to be determined following a detailed site inspection and design. All non perennial waterways and three (3) perennial watercourses will be crossed utilising open cut techniques. Statement of Commitment W1 reflects the use of this technique.

Of major concern to DECCW is the lack of detail pertaining to erosion and sediment control in the vicinity of the 177 water crossings. While it is noted that a Sediment and Erosion Management Plan (SEMP) will be prepared, DECCW remains concerned about the ability of the proponent to adequately prevent erosion and sedimentation based on the information provided in the Environmental Assessment.

DECCW considers that it is essential that relevant Government agencies are provided adequate opportunity to review and provide comment on the SEMP and the procedural guideline developed for each of the nine perennial water courses. Further, prior to works being undertaken in the vicinity of each of the nine perennial watercourses, notification of the scheduling of works should be provided to the relevant Government agencies so to allow inspections of the works to be undertaken.

In regards to the Statement of Commitments, DECCW recommends the following:

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

“Rehabilitation will be undertaken in accordance with current best practice and landowner requirements and will ensure that the works identified on page 16 of the Environmental Assessment are undertaken.”

Waste and Chemical Management

DECCW considers waste and chemical management to be one of the major issues for this proposal and as such in DECCW's response to the draft Environmental Assessment provided to

DoP requested additional information be included in the publicly exhibited Environmental Assessment. For ease, the following are the comments, provided by DECCW to DoP on the draft Environmental Assessment:

"The exhibited EA should identify all chemicals to be utilised and the wastes likely to be generated through the installation of the pipeline and indicate the storage locations for such materials. Further the proposed spill management infrastructure and procedures to address any spills of wastes, chemicals, effluent and hydrocarbon products utilised or generated should be addressed. This is of particular importance in areas adjacent to waterways and notably in the vicinity of the Bell, Macquarie and Lachlan Rivers.

The exhibited EA should describe the management strategies for the treatment and disposal/utilisation of all liquid and solid wastes generated by the proposed activities. In particular, the exhibited EA should identify the proposed disposal methods for waste oils and machinery waste sourced from any field operations and maintenance ie waste lubrication and hydraulic oil, grease cartridges temporary storages and refilling stations.

The proponent will need to develop a plan to manage the water used in pressure testing the line. The Department is of the opinion that the waste water may contain elevated levels of oil and grease and potentially heavy metals. The Statement of Commitments should include a commitment to classify the wastewater and based on the results of the classification, appropriately dispose of the waste. The classification of the waste should be undertaken in accordance with Waste Classification Guideline: Part 1-4 (DECC 2008).

The exhibited EA should identify the location of any camp sites and develop effluent and waste management plans for those sites."

DECCW notes that the Environmental Assessment provides that much of the above information will be included in the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). It is important to ensure that the above information is included in the CEMP.

In regards to the Statement of Commitments, DECCW recommends the following:

- Commitment W1 be amended to:

"Site specific assessments to be undertaken for each of the nine perennial waterways. The assessment to..."

- Commitment W3 be amended to:

"The quality of hydro-test water....with landowners. Water quality will be tested against Waste Classification Guideline: Part 1-4 (DECC 2008). Where water is..."

- Inclusion of the following commitment:

"A program of works will be provided to each of the relevant Government agencies prior to works being conducted in the vicinity of any of the nine perennial waterways."



John Rapley/ Marlene Stibbard

118 Scenic Drive

CUDAL NSW 2864

5th July 2010

RE: Proposed Gas Pipeline Route.

Dear Sir/Madam

We the undersigned wish to express our concerns re the impact of the proposed gas pipeline from Young to Wellington by ERM Power Pty Ltd.

The designated route will pass approximately 70 meters from our residence.

Lot 2 DP 1088877 Scenic Drive Cudal. Project property no 124

On 30 July 2009 your representative Toby Mitchell called at our place leaving a form, he asked how long our residence had been there, we informed him at that stage it had been there for 2 years, he then stated they don't know that this residence exists he then showed John a satellite map, that did not indicate our house, he stated that there could not be a residence within 300 meters of the pipeline.

As our block measures 225 meters square it would be impossible to relocate our house to meet the required distance.

Toby said that the pipeline may need to be moved further away, we thought that we would receive further information as to what the outcome maybe, but have not received any communication from ERM at this time.

Now the DA is on display at Cabonne Council Cudal we have looked at the map 8 of 13 and cannot see that it is different from the previous map shown to us.

We need to know what is happening to our situation as we are still developing our 5 hectare block. We installed a water bore in December 2009 at a cost of approximately \$20,000 and now find that nothing has changed according to the DA we don't know what our position is, do we continue to develop with this hanging over our heads.

We have put a lot of time and money over the past 3 years to get it to this stage.

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN ?

Awaiting your urgent response.

John Rapley

0427 001 205

Marelene Stibbard

0400 481 254

M. Stibbard

J. H. Rapley

J.R. & R.J. Pastoral Co. Pty Ltd.,
 "Yarra"
 1109 Grenfell Rd
Cowra 2794

12.7.10

Director Infrastructure Projects
 Department of Planning
 G.P.O. Box 39,
Sydney NSW 2001

Environmental Assessment: Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline
 Application No. MP 09 0143

Dear Sir,

J.R. & R.J. Pastoral Co. Pty. Ltd object to the above project.

Our objection is based on a number of issues

J.R. & R.J. Pastoral Co Pty. Ltd is of the opinion that there has been insufficient consultation with landholders/farmers in regard to the pipeline route and to our very real concerns that the construction and location of the pipeline will have on the Company's farming activities, especially our grain cropping.

The Company disputes the premise of the Environmental Assessment that there has been an adequate assessment, when there has not been any access granted to our Company property, and therefore no assessments carried out on the route of the pipeline through our property.

A major concern for J.R. & R.J. Pastoral Co are the Bio Security issues affecting the farming activities on our property with the construction and ongoing management of the pipeline.

5.2.1. Land Use Planning Impacts

Valuable agricultural land.

The DPI advised in it's letter of 8th July, 2009:

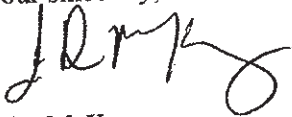
- "Weed management will need to be considered, as efforts should be made to ensure they are not spread from property to property
- Rehabilitation is important to both curtail erosion and weed germination"

Although some issues are mentioned in the Environmental Assessment, the Company is of the opinion that, given the scope of this Assessment, there is only tacit recognition of the Bio-Security issue.

J.R. & R.J. Pastoral Company believe that the issue of subsidence cannot be addressed to the satisfaction of the Company.

We look forward to the acceptance of our objections,

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. McKay', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John McKay

Director.

J.R. & R.J. Pastoral Co. Pty Ltd.

Wollombeen
Cudal Rd
Canowindra 2804
04.07.2010

Neville Osborne
Water and Energy
Infrastructure Projects
Bridge St Office
Sydney NSW 2001

Re:- Proposed Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline
Project Application Reference 09-0143

We wish to state we object to this pipeline being constructed through our property. We do not give our permission for any work to be carried out on our land. We have informed Beau Fraser CNC Project Manager of our objection to this pipeline coming through our property.

Ray Nash
Rosanne NASH

Ray Nash
Rosanne

Mr & Mrs SG Stranger
"Minoru"
872 Longs Corner Rd
CANOWINDRA NSW 2804

29 June 2010

Ms Anna Timbrell
Department of Planning
Major Projects
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Timbrell

Re: Young to Wellington proposed gas line. Application Reference: 09_0143

We wish to advise you we have a current subdivision on our property "Minoru" at Canowindra. Approved by Cabonne Council on 31/10/01, Application No: 2002/87. We have activated the plan by selling a block.

Yours sincerely

S.G. Stranger

Anna Stranger

Sam and Anna Stranger

Mr & Mrs Ben Azzopardi
1826 North Logan Rd
Cowra NSW 2794
7th July 2010

Director, Infrastructure Projects

Re: Young to Wellington Gas Pipeline

I am sending this letter on behalf of my sons
their families and ourselves in regards to the gas
pipeline who live on N° 1826, 1708 & 1632 North
Logan Road Cowra.

We where informed that the pipeline may be
going on the border of our fence line and then
cut through a corner of my property. We strongly
oppose this pipeline going through our property
as it is prime agricultural land and our family
does very intensive farm, growing vegetables
and Lucerne crops. Our farming business
involves our ground to be ploughed ver deep,
and also deep ripping to turn the ground
over every year, and this pipeline would
be an inconvent obstacle for us.

Also as the pipeline would cut across a
corner of our property new our brand new
dream home that we built 5 years ago; I would
not never agree to the gas line coming

(2)

into such close proximity of my family home, it would also concern me of potential danger for us.

Our properties are freehold and prime agricultural land, which in one of your reports you said that the gas pipeline would keep away from agricultural land, orchards vineyards and homes. Our properties are prime intensive agricultural land, where as properties on our boundaries are crown land that is used for grazing.

All the members of our family which includes three family's that have to earn income from, oppose the pipeline on our properties very strongly as it would also may cause danger to us and some employee's that work on the farms.

Yours Sincerely

Ben & Anne Azzopardi

B Azzopardi

A Azzopardi