

1 July 2021

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: DPIE – Major Projects

THE HUNTER EXPRESSWAY (M15): SSI 12590060, KURRI KURRI POWER STATION, HART ROAD, LOXTON

On 5 May 2021 TfNSW accepted the referral by the Department of Planning Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE) through the Planning Portal regarding the abovementioned application (Development Application). DPIE referred the Development Application to TfNSW for comment in accordance with the approval required under Section 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* as a Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) project. This letter is a submission in response to that referral.

TfNSW's primary interests are in the road network, traffic and broader transport issues. In particular, the efficiency and safety of the classified road network, the security of property assets and the integration of land use and transport.

The Hunter Expressway (M15) is a classified (State) road and Hart Road is a local road. TfNSW is the roads authority for the Hunter Expressway and Council is the roads authority for Hart Road and all other public roads in the area, in accordance with Section 7 of the *Roads Act 1993*.

TfNSW have reviewed the submitted Environmental Impact Statement by Jacobs (refer Project No. IS354500, Revision 0, dated 22/4/2021) and Traffic & Transport Assessment by Jacobs (refer Project No. IS354500, Revision 0, dated 12/4/2021).

TfNSW understands the proposal to be for the development of an open cycle gas fired power station near Kurri Kurri. The power station is stated to have an operational capacity of up to approximately 750 megawatts, operating on natural gas and then diesel as a backup fuel source. The proposal would connect into Ausgrid's existing 132 kV electricity overhead transmission infrastructure located adjacent to the development site. For gas operation, the proposal would also require a new gas lateral pipeline and gas receiving station. The gas works are subject to a separate environmental assessment and planning approval. Gas is proposed to be supplied to the proposal from existing gas fields that feed Sydney and Newcastle via the existing NSW gas transmission system.

TfNSW Response & Requirements

- TfNSW has reviewed the information provided and raises no objection to or requirements for the proposed development as it is considered there will be no significant impact on the nearby classified (State) road network.
- TfNSW main area of concern will be the construction of the supply gas main and the interactions of this infrastructure with TfNSW State Roads. It is understood that these matters are being assessed by TfNSW Asset team separate to the subject application.
- TfNSW notes that signage has not been submitted for consideration however it is advised that TfNSW does not support the signage within the Hunter Expressway corridor. Signage may be considered at the top of the off ramp on Hart Road indicating the direction of the power station, subject to agreement by Cessnock City Council.
- The consent authority must ensure the road pavement of the local road network including Hart Road, is suitable for the proposed heavy vehicle movements.

Advice to DPIE

TfNSW recommends that the following matters should be considered by DPIE in determining this development:

- TfNSW has no proposal that requires any part of the property.
- Consideration should be given to ensure that appropriate traffic measures are in place during the construction phase of the project to minimise the impacts of construction vehicles on traffic efficiency and road safety within the vicinity.
- DPIE should have consideration for appropriate sight line distances in accordance with Section 3 of the *Austrroads Guide to Road Design Part 4A (Unsignalised and Signalised Intersections)* and the relevant Australian Standards (i.e. AS2890:1:2004) and should be satisfied that the location of the proposed driveway promotes safe vehicle movements.

On determination of this matter, please forward a copy of the Notice of Determination to TfNSW for record and / or action purposes. Should you require further information please contact the Development Services Team, on 4908 7688 or by emailing development.hunter@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



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