31 March 2025

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ATT: Emma Barnet

Department of Planning and Environment

Re: SSD-62863964 – Somersby Drill Mud and Oily Water Recycling Facility

Dear Emma,

In reference to the Somersby Drill Mud and Oily Water Recycling Facility at 134 Somersby Fall Rd Somersby (SSD-62863964), Ausgrid would like to thank you for seeking input and feedback regarding the proposal. Ausgrid has undertaken a review of the EIS in relation to potential impacts or interfaces with Ausgrid's electricity infrastructure.

Ausgrid requires that due consideration be given to the compatibility of proposed development with existing Ausgrid infrastructure, particularly in relation to risks of electrocution, fire risks, Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMFs), noise, visual amenity and other matters that may impact on Ausgrid or the development.

Ausgrid has reviewed the EIS and advises the proponent will need to discuss new connections and load requirements to the site directly with Ausgrid and submit a connection application to Ausgrid as soon as practicable.

Ausgrid Underground Cables are in the vicinity of the development.

Ausgrid has underground distribution assets present along Somersby Falls Rd on the opposite side of the road to the site.

Special care should be taken to ensure that driveways and any other construction activities do not interfere with existing underground cables located in the footpath or adjacent roadways. It is recommended that the developer locate and record the depth of all known underground services prior to any excavation in the area. Information regarding the position of cables along footpaths and roadways can be obtained by contacting Before You Dig Australia (BYDA).

In addition to BYDA the proponent should refer to the following documents to support safety in design and construction:

- SafeWork Australia – Excavation Code of Practice.
- Ausgrid's Network Standard NS156 which outlines the minimum requirements for working around Ausgrid's underground cables.

  The following points should also be taken into consideration:

- Ausgrid cannot guarantee the depth of cables due to possible changes in ground levels from previous activities after the cables were installed.
- Should ground anchors be required in the vicinity of Ausgrid underground cables, the anchors must not be installed within 300mm of any cable, and the anchors must not pass over the top of any cable.

Ausgrid Overhead Powerlines are in the vicinity of the development.

Ausgrid has overhead distribution assets present along Somersby Falls Rd on the opposite side of the road to the site. The developer should refer to SafeWork NSW Document – Work Near Overhead Powerlines:

Code of Practice. This document outlines the minimum separation requirements between electrical mains (overhead wires) and structures within the development site throughout the construction process.

It is a statutory requirement that these distances be maintained throughout the construction phase. Consideration should be given to the positioning and operating of cranes, scaffolding, and sufficient clearances from all types of vehicles that are expected be entering and leaving the site.

The “as constructed” minimum clearances to the mains must also be maintained. These distances are outlined in the Ausgrid Network Standard, NS220 Overhead Design Manual. This document can be sourced from Ausgrid’s website at www.ausgrid.com.au.

It is the responsibility of the developer to verify and maintain minimum clearances onsite. In the event where minimum safe clearances are not able to be met due to the design of the development, the Ausgrid mains may need to be relocated in this instance.

Any Ausgrid asset relocation works will be at the developer’s cost.

New Driveways - Proximity to Existing Poles

Proposed driveways shall be located to maintain a minimum clearance of 1.5m from the nearest face of the pole to any part of the driveway, including the layback, this is to allow room for future pole replacements. Ausgrid should be further consulted for any deviation to this distance.

Streetlighting

The developer is to consider the impact that existing streetlighting and any future replacement streetlighting and maintenance may have on the development. Should the developer determine that any existing streetlighting may impact the development, the developer should either review the development design, particular the placement of windows, or discuss with Ausgrid the options for relocating the streetlighting. The relocating of any streetlighting will generally be at the developers cost. In many cases is not possible to relocate streetlighting due to its strategic positioning.

New or modified connection

It is recommended for the nominated electrical consultant/contractor to provide a preliminary enquiry to Ausgrid to obtain advice for the connection of the proposed development to the adjacent electricity network infrastructure. An assessment will be carried out based on the enquiry which may include whether or not:

- The existing network can support the expected electrical load of the development
- A substation may be required on-site, either a pad mount kiosk or chamber style and;
- site conditions or other issues that may impact on the method of supply.

Please direct the developer to Ausgrid's website, https://www.ausgrid.com.au/Connections/Get-connected about how to connect to Ausgrid's network.

Additional information can be found in the Ausgrid Quick Reference Guide for Safety Clearances “Working Near Ausgrid Assets - Clearances".

This document can be found by visiting the following Ausgrid website: https://www.ausgrid.com.au/Your-safety/Working-Safe/Clearance-enquiries.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Regards,

Warren Butson
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