

Our Ref: s18.6.59
Contact: Anthony Alliston
Your Ref: SSD-6093

18 August 2014

Department of Planning and Infrastructure
Attention: Pamela Morales
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001
e-mailed to: pamela.morales@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Morales

**INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL SUBMISSION
BINDAREE BEEF RENDERING AND BIO-DIGESTER PLANT (SSD – 6093)**

INTRODUCTION

Reference is made to the above State Significant Development (SSD – 6093) and the Department's letter dated 15 July 2014. Council is grateful for the opportunity to provide a written submission in respect to the project. This submission has been prepared by Council's Manager Development Services and has been endorsed by Council's Civil and Environmental Services Committee.

As you are aware, Bindaree Beef is one of Australia's largest family owned beef processing plants and the regions largest employer, employing over 700 full time staff. Bindaree Beef also injects major investment in the local business community, providing opportunity for local businesses to establish, expand and employ. Inverell Shire Council acknowledges the significant environmental and economic benefits of the project at a local and regional level.

Noting the positive implications of the project, Inverell Shire Council also seeks to ensure that the project is constructed and operated in a way that any potential negative impacts on the local and wider communities are minimised.

The response has been prepared in the context of:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) July 11 2014 (issue 06);
- Council's previous advice to Bindaree Beef – 27 September 2011 and 11 September 2012;
- Council's submission to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure – 4 September 2013;
- Council's Local Environmental Plan 2012 and Development Control Plan 2013; and
- An inspection of the site, locality, roads and infrastructure.

COUNCIL ASSESSMENT

Council has undertaken a review of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) dated 11 July 2014, prepared by Mitchel Hanlon Consulting Pty Ltd. Council is satisfied that the EIS adequately addresses the matters raised by Council in correspondence dated 4 September 2013, namely:

- Traffic, Access and Carparking;
- Stormwater and Drainage;
- Visual Impacts;
- Odour;
- Noise;
- Landscaping;
- Services;

- Bushfire;
- Contamination and Geotechnical Matters;
- Fire Safety; and
- Construction Impacts.

Council also notes that the EIS addresses the matters identified in the Director General's Requirements dated 13 September 2013.

Council acknowledges the specialist assessments undertaken in respect to the project, including a Traffic Impact Assessment, Air Quality Assessment, Noise and Vibration Assessment and other technical assessments. From Council's position the assessments are comprehensive, however Council do not employ specialists in these fields. Council is satisfied the referral of the application to the various specialised departments and the Department's internal assessment, will result in a comprehensive assessment of potential impacts.

The EIS addresses issues associated with environmental management and Section 5.27 of the EIS includes a summary of environmental mitigation measures. It is acknowledged that the proponent intends on continuing with annual monitoring and Council is satisfied that the Department will include conditions that ensure appropriate construction and operational management plans be prepared, approved and implemented for the duration of the project.

Inverell Shire Council is confident that the Department's assessment and determination will be thorough and that appropriate conditions will be placed on the Project Approval to ensure the likely impacts are adequately mitigated and that corrective action, where necessary can be undertaken.

With a view to ensuring the most appropriate and transparent outcome for all stakeholders, Inverell Council requests the opportunity to view the draft conditions of the Project Approval during the same period in which the proponent is given to review them.

Should you have any queries or require further clarification on matters raised in this submission, please contact me on 0425271633.

Yours faithfully



ANTHONY ALLISTON
MANAGER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES