

Application Details

Applicant Name: Green Valley Islamic College Ltd

("Minarah College, Catherine Field")

Application Number: SSD-30759158

Project Name: Minarah College

Statement

Based on the information provided in the Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") and Supporting Appendices, I would like to **OBJECT** to the proposal.

Reasons why I OBJECT to the Proposal

1. Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS"), Point 5. Community Engagement (page 59)

In relation to the below comments in the EIS report, I disagree with point 1. According to CoreLogic, there are only 563 homes in Catherine Field, some of which are in Catherine Park Estate. I disagree with point 2, many of my family members that live in Catherine Field did not receive a flyer in their letterbox. In relation to Point 3, we do not receive the newspaper "Camden-Narellan Times". This paper has not been delivered to Catherine Field in a long time and therefore was unaware of the advertisement. In relation to point 4, I have never heard anything further since the online zoom meeting in November. No one has ever contacted me or emailed me to discuss the school.

The community and stakeholder engagement undertaken has sought to address the requirements of the SEARs and includes:

- Information about the proposal and an invitation to online community sessions were shared with the community through flyers letterbox dropped to 945 residential dwellings and 8 commercial premises surrounding the site.
- In addition to the letterbox dropped flyer, letters were delivered along with the flyer to 17 adjacent neighbours inviting them to a dedicated online information for near neighbours only.
- Media coverage and an advertisement in the Camden-Narellan Times.
- Updates to the community and stakeholders as the proposal progresses through the planning process, including reporting back to the community and stakeholders on issues raised and how the project team has responded through a community question and answers document.

- **On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal, because of the lack of community awareness and the lack of engagement with the local community.**

2. Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”), Point 6.3.1 Existing Environment (page 67)

The EIS report significantly downplays the significant impact that the proposal will have on the Catherine Field Community. The report merely suggests that properties in Catherine Field “may” be impacted by the proposed development. I strongly feel that the proposed development will have an enormous impact on the Catherine Field Community.

6.3.1. Existing Environment

The site is located within a semi-rural setting within the suburb of Catherine Field. The surrounding context of the site includes large-lot rural residential subdivisions that may be impacted by the proposed development.

On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal.

3. Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”), Point 3.1 Project Overview

(Pages 31-33)

Based on the below table the school will be operating from 7am in the morning to 9pm at night Monday to Friday and on the weekends 9am to 9pm. The school operating hours are of great concern to me because it will mean that for 7 days a week I will have to deal with noise from the school, traffic congestion from the school etc. Catherine Field is a peaceful rural area, the proposed development will cause a disturbance to neighbours and residents 7 days a week.

I feel it is unfair for any State Government to impose such a burden on any community, in particular the Catherine Field Community. The proposed development will only cause immense pain and heart ache to the residents that live in Catherine Field.

Hours of operation	<p>The proposed hours of operation are outlined below for different components of the proposed development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ELC: 7:00am to 6:00pm, Monday to Friday▪ OOSH: 7:00am to 6:30pm, Monday to Friday▪ School Hours: 8:20am to 3:20pm, Monday to Friday▪ Multi-purpose Hall: 9:00am to 10:00pm, Saturday to Sunday▪ Primary Hall: 8:20am to 3:20pm, Monday to Friday▪ Sports field (during the week): During school hours and 5:00pm to 9:00pm, Monday to Friday▪ Sports field (weekend): 9:00am to 9:00pm, Saturday and Sunday
--------------------	---

On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal.

Social Impact Assessment prepared by Sarah George Consulting

4. SEARs 9. Traffic, Transport & Accessibility

- I OBJECT against the proposal “Minarah College” (Application Number SSD-30759158) because I do not believe that the SEARs requirements of 9. Traffic, Transport & Accessibility have been satisfied by Ason Group's "Surveyed Traffic Volumes" as it was conducted during Covid-19. Ason group themselves state this on pages 24-25 "This has a potential impact on the integrity and consistency of any traffic surveys undertaken during this period"
- The school operating hours commence at 7am. My ability to get to work on time will be greatly impacted as I compete with 1,580 students being dropped off at school by cars and buses and blocking the exit to Bringelly Road. This will greatly affect my business and customers. What a nightmare, I will literally be stuck in a line trying to exit onto Bringelly Road for hours. This is unacceptable and again it would be unfair for the State government to impose such a burden on the residents of Catherine Field.
- I am greatly concerned that the traffic congestion that will arise if the school proposal goes ahead will impose a huge risk to the safety of the students, teachers, parents, residents, and motorists in and around the school.
- I am greatly concerned for the safety of my wife and children because of the traffic congestion that will arise if the school proposal goes ahead and the ability of my children to get to school on time and my wife to get to work on time.

On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal.

5. SEARs 11. Noise & Vibration

- Once again, I do not believe that the SEARs requirements of 11. Noise and Vibration have been met as the assessment carried out by Day Design Pty Ltd's "Measured Ambient Noise Level", for the following reasons.
 - (a) The noise and vibration assessment was conducted during Covid-19 lockdown and
 - (b) secondly due to their admission of a missing noise logger at 'Location A' for 18 days out of the 25 days.

- I am of the strong view that this report is inaccurate, false and misleading and incomplete.
- The report from Day Designs Pty Ltd fails to accurately represent completeness, accuracy, quality, and clarity of the information in the EIS.

On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal.

6. Sears 20: Social Impact:

- I OBJECT against the proposal “Minarah College” (Application Number SSD-30759158) because the proposal is out of character to the area, as it is altering a rural landscape to one of commercial.
- Per page 11 of the Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”) lists the feasible alternatives that were investigated. One of these scenarios was the “Do Nothing”, approach which will result in “the site remaining predominantly rural, unplanned, and unserved”. I greatly support this approach.
- I have lived in Catherine Fields all my life, more than 50 years. I come from a generation of people who have lived in this area, my parents have lived in Catherine Field for most of their life, followed by my sister and I and now my own children. Growing up in a farming community where we grew vegetables that were sold at the markets. It will be with great sadness to myself, my parents, and my young children if the proposal for the school went ahead. It will destroy the rural nature of this place, it will destroy the beauty of this place, it will destroy the simplicity of this place. I am absolutely shattered, and heartbroken about the proposal to build the school. The State Government is allowing big business that are cashed up to come into our community and destroy it. Extremely unfair and unjust.

Extract

Feasible Alternatives

Minarah College identified three project alternatives which were considered in respect to the identified need for the educational establishment. Each of these options is listed and discussed in the following table.

Table 1 Project Alternatives

Option	Assessment
Do Nothing	<p>The 'Do Nothing' approach would result in the site remaining predominantly rural, unplanned, and unserved.</p> <p>The consequences of not carrying out the project are far reaching and include failure to support the growing demand of Minarah College Green Valley and failure to support the predicted population growth of Catherine Field, and surrounding suburbs which form part of the South West Growth Area.</p> <p>The Western City District Plan outlines that a significant population growth is expected in Camden local government area (LGA), specifically for children and young people.</p> <p>Over the 20 years to 2036, projections show an expected increase of 24,950 children aged four years and younger, with 41 per cent of this growth in Camden local government area.</p> <p>The population growth data alone illustrates the need and likely demand for early education and childcare facilities and schools. Minarah College would cater for growing population by providing a diverse education facility in a growth area.</p> <p>Without Minarah College, there could be a significant undersupply in private school education opportunities which cater for a diverse cross section of people.</p>

On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal.

7. Sears 20: Social Impact:

Page 10 of the Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") explains the intended outcomes of the project as listed below.

Extract

The intended outcomes of the project are to:

- Provide a diversity of learning spaces and associated facilities that will meet contemporary learning standards.
- Utilise design elements to provide sustainable outcomes for the development as well as reflect Islamic, Fijian and indigenous cultural beliefs.
- Providing social and economic benefits to the local community through job creation and educational opportunities.

The school proposed to be built in Catherine Fields is to cater for children that do not reside in Catherine Field. How is this fair to the Catherine Field Community? We are essentially bringing people outside our community into our street and clogging it up

with traffic and causing distress to Catherine Field residents that will not even go to the school. How is this fair? Where is the benefit for me and my family? Where is it a benefit to the other residents who resides in Catherine Field.

As mentioned earlier, I have lived in Catherine Field all my life, and to the best of my knowledge I have never known that in the Catherine Field community a Fijian Muslim community resides in it. It simply doesn't exist. The Minarah College will be serving a community that resides outside of Catherine Field. The people residing in Catherine Field will not benefit from this school, Minarah College.

On this basis I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal.

Conclusion

In conclusion, per the reasons stated above, I STRONGLY Object to the Minarah College proposal as it will greatly impact the Catherine Field Community. Catherine Field does not have the infrastructure to support a development of this capacity. The proposed development will have an adverse effect on the people residing in Catherine Field.