

22nd September 2022

To whom this may concern

The intent and purpose of this document is to provide our thoughts and feedback on the inland rail line that cuts through our property. We are located 30kms east of the township Gulargambone on the Box Ridge Rd. Where the inland rail line crosses into our property and also crosses the Box Ridge Rd is approximately 27km east of Gulargambone. Our total land area is 3,533ha and potentially the inland rail line will separate 500ha of our property. The following thoughts and feedback address issues we have with the 500ha that will be separated.

The thoughts and feedback to be addressed are:

- Water access and reliable source of water during the construction and after construction of the rail line.
- The access from eastern side of our property to western side of our property during construction and post construction of the rail line for machinery, livestock, staff and plant & equipment.
- Flooding: the highly likely possibility of severe damage that flooding with cause to our property and surrounding properties due the inland rail line changing the natural water flow of water from the Warrumbungle Mountain Ranges heading west to the Castlereagh River.

Please see below feedback on the proposed railway, outlining three of our concerns to be addressed.

1. Water access

Gilgandra Shire has put down a bore for the railway on the Box Ride Road. We have an existing bore on our property within 100m of the new one. Our concern is our current bore will be effected as the new one will be used for constructing the railway. The water table will go down, our access to water for farming and grazing could be decreased. How much water will be used? Can you ensure the water access from our bore will not be affected? Our bore is situated on the southern side of the railway and it provides water to 500hectares of land on the northern side of the railway. Will this be effected?

2. Access to our property on both sides of the Box Ridge road.

The railway will split our property in two. We have property on each side of box ridge road. Currently, as you leave our driveway, after 200m on the box ridge road we have an entrance to the property on the western side of the road. We have invested in creating a laneway on this part of the property for ease of moving stock and transporting equipment. With no planned crossing, the laneway will be redundant. Based on the current crossing on the map, to move stock and plant & equipment, we would need to be on the main road for approx. 6km before being able to get them across the road on to our property on the eastern side. This will increase labour times and increase the risk of animal welfare issues with further travel on the public road. The risk of Animal welfare issues also increase due to unnecessary extra handle because the most direct and sensible route for our livestock will be cut from by the rail line.

We need a crossing closer to our main driveway. Our infrastructure is all down our main driveway. Specifically, the shearing shed, cattle yards and sheep yards. Without a closer crossing, we will need to invest in an additional shearing shed, cattle yards, and sheep yards on our property on the other side of the railway for shearing, lamb marking and general stock work.

Our main driveway and the entrance to our property on the western side accessing the laneway are roughly indicated on the screenshot below. This current set up keeps everyone safer by having less time that our employees need to be on the public road while moving stock and plant & equipment.

The largest of our plant & equipment is approximately 8m wide by 7m high – will the crossing be large enough to accommodate this? Our recommendation is a crossing or underpass of 10 metres wide and 8 metres high.

3. Flooding

With the railway placed through our property and those surrounding us, we are concerned about erosion, water logging of crops and flooding damage to infrastructure with significant rain events.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback, we look forward to your response.

Regards,

Ian, Paul & Will Lambell of 'Weenya' - 2936 Box Ridge Road Gulargambone 2828 NSW

