yass valley council

the country the people

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29 September 2023

Anthony Ko Department of Planning & Environment Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124.

Dear Anthony

SSI-36656827 - HumeLink

At its meeting on 28 September 2023 Council consider the application for the proposed HumeLink Transmission Line. Council resolved that:

- 1. A submission be made to the Department of Planning & Environment on the proposed HumeLink transmission line:
 - Opposing the use of above ground transmission lines in favour of undergrounding power lines for the Humelink Project to protect the interests of farmers, landowners, volunteer fire fighting service personnel and the environment; and
 - Seeking the inclusion of the following requirements in any approval that may issue for above ground transmission lines:
 - The proponent to undertake appropriate landscaping to mitigate the landscape impacts in the Murrumbidgee and Black Rand to Yass Landscape Character Areas due to the reduction of vegetation in these landscapes
 - The proponent to undertake appropriate landscaping to mitigate the visual impacts, both during construction and operation, at the following viewpoints:
 - South from Cooks Hill Road
 - South east from Childowla Road
 - East of Burrinjuck Road
 - East from the Hume Highway, Yass
 - West from Black Range Road
 - Specific measures be tailored and installed by the proponent for each of the 15 dwellings in Yass Valley impacted by the transmission line to mitigate visual impacts
 - The proponent invest in new accommodation for workers in Yass Valley due to the lack of short term accommodation

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- The 21 Local Roads in Yass Valley be upgraded by the proponent where necessary to be fit for purpose to accommodation the additional construction traffic prior to the commencement of the transmission line construction. In addition to the commitment to prepare a dilapidation report on the condition of the road surface, the report is required to include existing structural conditions of the pavement of Local Roads to be used by construction traffic. This shall involve a Geotech investigation at the pre-construction stage. The investigation shall also examine anticipated impacts during the construction phase and recommend mitigation measures that should be included as repair work commitments, in the proposed Traffic and Transport Management Plan (which should be more like a "Construction Traffic Management Plan".
- The proponent to maintain and repair Local Roads throughout the construction phase to the appropriate Council standard. The Traffic and Transport Management Plan to include a commitment that any damage caused by construction traffic movements during the construction phase shall be progressively repaired at no cost to Council. In addition, at the completion of construction, a joint assessment between Council staff and the contractor of the Local Roads used during construction to be undertaken to assess any damage by construction traffic
- The proponent is required to provide a site map showing locations of proposed construction compounds and their accessways and any carparking areas that might be proposed for employees parking spaces. The proponent shall provide a commitment to remove the compounds and parking areas at the completion of construction and restore the sites to their original conditions
- A Community Enhancement Fund be established by the proponent in accordance with Council's policy based on an annual contribution, while ever the transmission line is operating, equal to 1% of the capital cost divided by the estimated operational life of 20 years
- 2. The Department of Planning & Environment be advised that:
 - The length of the public exhibition for a major project has not taken into account the complexity of the project and the extent of the documentation for laypersons impacted by the proposal
 - A local forum should be held in Yass to allow local residents to clarify their concerns and seek response from the Department and the proponent
 - Any Public Hearing be held in Yass to provide the opportunity for local residents to raise their concerns
- 3. Council meet with neighbouring Councils to investigate forming a coalition to continue to fight for undergrounding Humelink.

The report to Council can be viewed at https://yass.infocouncil.biz/Open/2023/09/CO_28092023_AGN_802.PDF .

Yours sincerely

Chins Ser,

Chris Berry Chief Executive Officer