

**Name:** Ms Kerrie Anne Rawson Fletcher

**Address:** TARANAKI  
3609 Mid Western Highway Blayney NSW 2799  
0412505642  
kahayes4@bigpond.com

**Name of Applicant & Application:** Metzyia Pty Ltd SSD 6594

**Statement: Support/Object:** Object

**Reason for Objection:** See letter of objection

**Declaration of reportable Political donations:** I declare that I have not accepted or paid out any reportable political donations:

**LETTER OF OBJECTION OF LOCATION:**

**Attention:** Director of Planning and Environment please accept my letter detailing my objections **to the location** of the proposed construction the Small Stock Abattoir located at 137 Newbridge Road Blayney. Please note that I support the proposed building development **but in a different location**.

**Personal concerns:**

I supply DP 750390 for your self to have reference of the location of my property. My property backs onto the Belubula River. I purchased the property in 2009. Since my purchase the river has encroached on my property a number of times; please note that it has never inundated the area approximately 50 meters around the existing building. Also on research I have also been advised by the original home owner/builder that the existing house has never been inundated by encroachment (flooding) from the Belubula River. However on that note I am concerned that the proposed construction of the Small Stock Abattoir, if permitted to be constructed within the flood water level area, at the location of 137 Newbridge Road and requires land fill for the proposed building site and stock yards to be installed, the water level will be altered, causing rise and further encroachment (flooding) beyond the 50 meters of the house with the probability of reaching the building itself. In conditions of extreme rain fall the river in my location finds it hard to flow due to the volume of run off water up river and due to the existing rail infrastructure that blocks the passage of water and has only allocated small escape roots for the water to move down river. If the water is held back to any further degree past my property I expect higher water levels within my property with the probability of inundation to my house.

**Additional to the personal affect that this construction will have I also note the affects that it will have on the overall community of Blayney.**

**Zoonotic Disease:**

Q fever identified as being one of the higher of disease risk to the community based on the location to the township.

The possibility/probability of zoonotic disease spread by goats that may affect the local community is high-lighted in the inserted document:

**Ref: Henderson, WR (2009). Pathogens in Invasive Animals of Australia. Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, Canberra.**

**3.4 Feral goats.....**Feral goats are prone to a number of diseases currently in Australia, including Q fever, tetanus, leptospirosis, brucella melitensis, hydatids, pulpy kidney, blackleg, and various parasitic worms (Biosecurity Queensland 2007). Feral goats (image: Scott Jennings, Department of Environment and Heritage, South Australia) Bacteria: Of significant concern to human health is the bacterium Coxiella burnetti, causing Q fever, which is widespread among feral goats (seroprevalence of 52% in one study; Parkes et al 1996).

Although usually non-pathogenic in goats, Q fever can cause pneumonia, hepatitis and death in humans, and is considered the most infectious disease in the world, with people being capable of becoming infected from a single cell (Maurin and Raoult 1999, OIE 2006). An outbreak of Q fever was reported in Victorian abattoir staff involved in the slaughter of feral goats (Buckley 1980). A more recent case occurred in Waikerie in South Australia, where a cluster of 13 Q fever cases (including one death) were thought to be linked to inhalation of contaminated dust from the local abattoir, affecting townsfolk not involved in meat preparation (Pedler 2007, ABC News 10/9/2007).

#### **Additional Diseases:**

Melioidosis, caused by the bacterium *Pseudomonas pseudomallei*, is considered to be endemic in tropical Australia, with sheep and goats particularly susceptible (Choya et al 2000). It is likely to be responsible for the absence of feral goats in the Northern Territory's top end (Parkes et al). Another bacterium reported in feral goats is the zoonosis *Corynebacterium ovis*, which causes caseous lymphadenitis (abscesses on the lymph nodes) (Batey et al 1985, Parkes et al 1996). Other non-specific bacteria, 'faecal coliforms', have been identified from feral goats in studies of possible sources of water supply contamination (Ferguson 2005). The first report of *Mycobacterium bovis* bacteria in a goat was also found in this literature search, but described infection of a domestic goat (Cousins et al 1993). Parkes et al (1996) comment that other important diseases of livestock (such as yersiniosis, leptospirosis and mycobacterial diseases such as Johne's disease and bovine tuberculosis) 'appear to be rare' in feral goats. Johne's disease and tuberculosis are national notifiable animal diseases. While no specific reports of occurrence of Bovine Johne's Disease (BJD) and Ovine Johne's Disease were found, risks from these chronic wasting diseases being endemic in feral goats in South Australia are mentioned (South Australian Goat Advisory Group meeting<sup>1</sup>). The Goat Industry Council of Australia recently introduced a national goat health statement that includes a risk rating system for Johne's disease (also known as paratuberculosis), to help the 8000 goat producers Australia-wide provide information about the health status of their goats for sale<sup>2</sup>. This disease is clearly of concern to the goat industry. There is also controversy regarding Johne's disease having potential association with human Crohn's disease (eg Greenstein). Viruses: Caprine arthritis/encephalitis virus infection has been found in goats in South Australia (Surman et al 1987), and was also reported by the OIE Working Group (OIE 2006). A retroviral infection of goats, caprine arthritis/encephalitis incidence is low and sporadic. It can lead to chronic disease of the joints and, on rare occasions, encephalitis in goat kids. Parasites: Feral goats are known to carry 22 nematode, 2 cestode, 2 trematode, 4 arthropod, and 3 protozoan parasites (Parkes et al 1996 and references therein). Many of these can infect domestic sheep and all can infect domestic goats. The most common health problem causing death in feral goats in the Northern Territory is reportedly worms (Rural ABC May 2008<sup>3</sup>). A link has been suggested between feral goats and the occurrence of hydatid tapeworms in cattle in the Kimberley region of Western Australia, where populations were previously uninfected (Lymbery et al 1995). Enteric coccidiosis, an economically important parasitic disease particularly of neonatal domestic goats, has been found in feral goats (Main and Creeper 1998). Coccidiosis of Brunner's (duodenal) glands in feral goats that died during overseas transport to the Middle East was described by Main and Creeper (1998). The researchers concluded the condition was likely caused by the protozoan parasite *Eimeria* spp, and that stress associated with transport contributed to severe coccidiosis and death (Main and Creeper 1998).

**Contamination by flood water:**

In the event of high rain fall causing the increase of the Belubula River the possibility of water flow over the area where goats will be yarded, will pose/cause the effect of contamination of excrement, from feral goats, i.e. urine, fecal matter, blood, into the water ways and the water table. Depending on the time of year i.e. summer, will have additional adverse affect due to increase of odour caused by an increase in temperature.

Once the water level has resided, contamination that has resulted over the lands affected will have a long lasting affect for the community of odour as the areas dry out. Giving higher risk of zoonotic contamination to the local community.

In conclusion it is also important to note that within the buffer zone between the development site and the town ship consists of farm land, the Belubula River and park lands. These areas are environments for wild life, insects (high level of mosquitoes) and feral animals, such as fox, cats, etc. Consideration should be taken that their existence of life may pose as a threat by vector (host) infestation of zoonotic disease into the township from the development site.

**Local escapement:**

Non compliance with previous building/environmental/planning specifications.

It has come to my attention that the past development of Sealink the responsible party had requirements based in their accepted DA had to be adhered to i.e. surrounding landscapes, to create and maintain a plantation perimeter to hide the development and help blend it into the natural escapement of the location and create a more acceptable natural appearance. This requirement has never been adhered to. Thus concerning that if past expected requirements have not been met, while would it be expected that requirements on this new development will be adhered to. The questions arise as who will be the regulatory body to ensure that the requirements are met.

**Blayney Retirement Village:**

In the history of flood water the Blayney Retirement Centre which is opened to flood water during high rain fall. The flood waters reach and cross the section of road and across the path way to the retirement centre. The possibility of contamination to the residents of the centre will increase with the proposed development of this site during flooding. The probability of odour from such a facility will have an extreme affect to the residents of the retirement centre also with the increase of heavy vehicle traffic which will pass directly by the residents.

**Environmental Impact:**

Increase of noise due to trucks with in the township on a basis of 24/7 days per week. The smell from these vehicles will surely have an effect on the township and the community. Pollutants that have a probability of leaving/escaping from these vehicles will also have an adverse affect on the community roads into and out of the access points of the development site via town. The probability of water contamination to the Belubula River from run off during high rain fall will have a devastating effect on the water quality, water life within and down stream from the local township.

**Increase Traffic:**

The increase of traffic (trucks) will have a negative impact on the local roads causing higher costs for repairs to the general rate payer within the community.

**In conclusion:**

As I was growing up it was stated by my elders that Blayney was a town to avoid due to the odour from the at time existing abattoir. Having such a facility within the town ship had a negative effect on the community. Blayney now has the ability to prosper and be regarded as a clean town, giving people within the town ship a sense of pride. It is not that I do not support the Small Stock Abattoir being built in the Blayney Shire; I do not support the location.

**Yours sincerely**

**Kerrie Anne Rawson Fletcher**