

Cameron Townsend
28 Osman Street
Blayney NSW 2799

20 May 2015

Planning Services,
Department of Planning & Environment,
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Manager – Industry Assessments

Dear Sir

Proposed Blayney Abattoir – SSD 6594

I don't normally get involved in local issues because I have always left it to others, thinking that there is not much any one person can do. But now for the first time I am writing in relation to a local issue, because it concerns me greatly that a decision that is really short sighted and bad for the town may be made. I want to do what I can to stop this. I hope my voice counts.

I am not opposed to a new abattoir in our Shire. In fact I think it is a good thing and should be encouraged. But it must be in a sensible location. Putting up a new abattoir on Newbridge Road is just crazy when there are so many better sites that seem obvious. I know that it will probably save the applicant money by bolting it on to the Sea link cold store, but surely that is not a reason for overriding other issues and problems, all of which tell me that it would be disastrous. Having stock trucks coming along the main Street and turning at the Post Office is crazy. I went to a community meeting last week and heard about the Q fever risks and that worries me. I had no idea how bad it may be, and the schools and retirement village are on the route. It is not just worth it! If the applicant won't move the abattoir to a more sensible location then I say it should be blocked.

What the Department should do is tell the applicant that it is not suitable for this location, but may be approved elsewhere. The obvious location is next to the CTLX saleyards. They were built there because they are well away from town and on a main highway. There is plenty of land there and I think George Tanos or one of his companies actually owns some of it. The CTLX site is on a catchment that drains into the Belubula River downstream of Carcoar Dam, so if the dam is ever used for town water supplies there is no problem with drinking water catchment being polluted.

I also know how disastrous it will be for the Athol Gardens wedding reception business. I have worked there as a barman for about 4 years now so know how close the abattoir will be. The bar is located outside on the verandah. I know how guests mingle in the gardens in the area overlooking the north/north east. It seems to me that on balmy summer evenings, which is when guests are outside for most of the night, the wind blows in gently from the abattoir site towards Athol. The conditions when the wind blows in this direction are the very conditions when most guests are outside. I can't believe that there would be no smell and noise when conditions are like this.

I am therefore strongly opposed to this project solely because of its location.

Yours sincerely



Cameron Townsend

(I have not made any reportable political donations in the previous two years)