



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



The Secretary
NSW Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Your Ref: SSD 9418
Our Ref: D17/4115

ATTENTION: Bianca Thornton

24 December 2019

Dear Ms Thornton

Agency Comment:- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - Ravensworth Composting Facility Expansion, (Lot 10 DP1204457) 74 Lemington Road, Ravensworth NSW (Singleton LGA)

I refer to your correspondence dated 20 November 2019 seeking NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) advice and recommended conditions for the above State Significant Development (SSD) proposal.

The NSW RFS understands the development proposal has the following key components:

- *The continued operation of the existing facility in accordance with DA140/2016 as modified;*
- *Receive a total of up to 200,000 tpa of organics;*
- *Transfer of the composted material to other AGL Macquarie sites such as the Liddell Ash Dam, Liddell Power Station and Bayswater Power Station for use in rehabilitation as per existing approval;*
- *Sale of a portion of the finished 'compost' to third parties as per DA140/2016 as modified;*
- *Upgrading of a proportion of the hardstand area and installation of an aerated composting system such as the Mobile Aerated Floor (MAF) (or equivalent) suitable for the management and composting of other organics including a combined Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) resource stream;*
- *Completion of the capping of the hardstand area and expansion of an existing leachate dam as approved as part of the Stage 2 development application to facilitate the management and storage of the increase in organic inputs;*
- *Installation of a single lane weigh bridge approximately 27.5m long;*
- *Installation of covered hard stand areas for the receipt and blending, if required, of incoming organics including FOGO;*

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- *Installation of a dedicated trailer wash bay;*
- *Installation of two 50,000 litre recycled drill water storage tanks; and*
- *Installation of a machinery shelter that will allow storage of tools and machinery for servicing.*

The subject site (including access) is not mapped bush fire prone by Singleton Shire Council. It is noted that the development may have an increased fire risk through spontaneous combustion processes. The NSW RFS is the primary response agency for fighting fires within the site.

The NSW RFS has reviewed the EIS and associated documents and has no objection to the proposal. The following conditions are recommended to be included to any consent granted:

1. A Fire Management Plan (FMP) shall be prepared in consultation with NSW RFS Upper Hunter Fire Control Centre. The FMP shall include:
 - 24 hour emergency contact details including alternative telephone contact;
 - Site infrastructure plan;
 - Fire fighting water supply plan;
 - Site access and internal road plan;
 - Construction of Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and their continued maintenance;
 - Location of hazards (Physical, Chemical and Electrical) that will affect fire fighting operations and procedures to manage identified hazards during fire fighting operations;
 - Such additional matters as required by the NSW RFS District Office (FMP review and updates).
2. A 20,000 litre water supply (tank) fitted with a 65mm storz fitting shall be located adjoining the internal property access road within the required APZ.
3. To allow for emergency service personnel to undertake property protection activities, a 10 metre defensible space, managed as an Asset Protection Zone (APZ - as outlined within section 4.1.3 and Appendix 5 of 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006' and the NSW Rural Fire Service's document 'Standards for Asset Protection Zones') that permits a minimum 4 metre wide, unobstructed vehicle access is to be provided around the perimeter of the solar array and associated infrastructure.

For any queries regarding this correspondence please contact Alan Bawden on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours Sincerely



Kalpana Varghese

Acting Manager – Planning and Environment Services East

The RFS has made getting information easier. For general information on 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2006', visit the RFS web page at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au and search under 'Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2006'.