

Department Ref: SSD-6619-Mod-1
APA Ref: 445045

Ellen Luu
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

EMAIL OUT: ellen.luu@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ellen,

**RE: 509 Byrnes Road and 212 East Bomen Road, Bomen
Lot 21 on DP1128492, Lot 1 on DP850711, and Lot 3 on DP594679
S4.55 (2) Modification Application: Energi Battery Recycling Facility**

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the proposed modifications to the existing Energi Battery Recycling Facility at the above address. Further to our correspondence dated 20 February 2020, please find outlined below APA's response to the proposed modification.

APA Group (APA) is Australia's largest natural gas infrastructure business and has direct management and operational control over its assets and investments. APA's gas transmission pipelines span across Australia, delivering approximately half of the nation's gas usage. APA owns and operates over 15,000 km's of high pressure gas transmission pipelines across Australia.

East Australian Pipeline Pty Limited (APA) owns and operates the Young to Wagga Wagga Pipeline and Young to Wagga Wagga Looping Pipeline, which are located within a 20-metre wide easement on a south-west alignment through subject Lot 3 on DP594679 (see Table 1 for details):

Table 1: Transmission gas pipelines in the area of consideration

Pipeline	Pipeline Licence	Easement Width (m)	Diameter (mm)	Measurement Length (m)
Young to Wagga Wagga	PL19	20	300	65
Young to Wagga Wagga Looping			450	65

Note: measurement length is applied to either side of the pipeline.

APA's Role

As a Licensee under the *Pipelines Act 1967*, APA is required to operate pipelines in a manner that minimises adverse environmental impacts and protects the public from health and safety risks resulting from operation of our high pressure gas transmission pipelines (**HPGTP**). Once a HPGTP is in place, APA is required to constantly monitor both the pipeline corridor and also a broader area within which we are required to consider land use changes and development and to assess what such changes means to the risk profile of the HPGTP.

APA has a number of responsibilities and duties to perform under a complex framework of legislation, standards and controls across Federal, State and Local Government landscapes. In particular, the *Pipelines Act 1967*, cites Australian Standard 2885 (**AS2885**) as a mandatory safety standard for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of transmission pipelines. In discharging our regulative responsibilities, APA needs to continuously review what is happening around its assets, what land use changes are occurring and what development is taking place to ensure it remains in a position to comply with applicable operational and safety standards and legislation whilst meeting its commercial obligations and imperatives.

Pipeline Risk Profile and the Measurement Length

In managing HPGTP's and considering land use changes, APA must focus on that area geographically defined by AS2885 as the Measurement Length (**ML**). The ML area is the heat radiation zone associated with a full-bore pipeline rupture. APA is mandated to consider community safety in the ML due to the high consequences of pipeline rupture to life, property and the economy.

The ML is determined by the size of the pipe and the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (**MAOP**) of the pipe. APA must consider any changes of land use within the ML area to determine the effect of a new use on the risk profile of the pipeline.

For reference, the ML of Young to Wagga Wagga Pipeline and Young to Wagga Wagga Looping Pipeline is 65m respectively. Note that the ML is a radial dimension, and therefore applies to both sides of the pipe.

Safety Management Study

AS2885 requires a Safety Management Study (**SMS**) to be undertaken whenever the land use classification of land within the ML changes. The purpose of an SMS is to assess the risk associated with a change in land use, including both construction risks and ongoing land use risks. The SMS will also develop appropriate controls to reduce risks to 'as low as reasonably practicable' (**ALARP**). In this case, the development is not changing the existing surrounding land use, and therefore an SMS is not required.

Easement Management

APA is the beneficiary of a 20-metre wide pipeline easement in which the Wagga Wagga Pipeline and Young to Wagga Wagga Looping Pipeline are located. To ensure compliance with the safety requirements of AS2885, APA needs to ensure our easement is managed to an appropriate standard. This includes:

- Ensuring the easement is maintained free of inappropriate vegetation and structures.
- Place warning signs at various mandated points along the pipeline route, including any change in property description/boundaries.
- Maintain a constant line of sight between warning signs.
- Undertake physical patrols and inspections of the easement.

APA will not accept outcomes that do not enable us to achieve our safety responsibilities to the surrounding community. Crossing of the pipeline should be at 90 degrees and minimised as much as possible.

Any works within the easement must be approved by APA through our Third Party Works Authorisation process. This process will ensure all works are undertaken in a safe manner that does not physically impact on the pipeline. If you are seeking to undertake works on property containing a pipeline, or are seeking details on the physical location of the pipeline, please contact Dial Before You Dig on 1100 or APA directly at APApotection@apa.com.au.

Proposed development

APA's response has been provided following review of the Enirgi Power Storage Recycling Consolidation Project Modification Environmental Assessment prepared by GHD, dated November 2019.

Figure 3-1 of the report shows the proposed Eastern Irrigation Area over APA's gas pipeline. While the plans reference APA's gas pipeline, it is not clearly marked as being for a high-pressure gas transmission pipeline. The level of risk associated with any intrusion into the easement is not adequately communicated to those undertaking site works. The easement should be clearly identified as an easement for a high pressure gas transmission pipeline on all relevant plans. In addition, the easement

should be hatched and notated as 'no works to occur without the prior authorisation of the pipeline operator'.

It is concerning to APA that a portion of the Eastern Irrigation Area is proposed to be located over APA's high-pressure gas pipeline easement. This proposed outcome is not acceptable, as the disposal of wastewater has the potential to create soaked soil over the easement area. In addition, the presence of sulphuric acid, a corrosive agent, in the soil due to the possibility of contaminated irrigation water may cause significant integrity issues for APA's two HPGTPs. In the very unlikely event that the presence of corrosive soil causes a corrosion rupture of either pipeline the safety of those at the Battery Recycling Facility would also be at risk.

The proponent's Environment Assessment referenced above, discusses the possible presence of low levels of arsenic and lead that may be present in the irrigation water along with possible sulphuric acid. As such, the proposal presents a potential health and safety issue for the operational activities including APA's corridor condition inspections or any potential maintenance activities. It should be noted no development is permitted in the easement without the prior authorisation of APA.

APA's pipeline easement is not a suitable location for acidic wastewater disposal. Any acidic wastewater disposal must be outside the easement area, and designed to ensure no runoff will encroach onto the easement area.

Comments

On the basis of the information provided, APA does not object to the proposed development subject to the following conditions being included with any approval issued for the proposal:

Conditions of Approval

1. No Improvements within Easement

Buildings, structures, roadway, pavement, pipeline, cable, fence, on-site waste water treatment (or irrigation area), or any other improvement on or under the land within the gas transmission pipeline easement must not be constructed without prior consent in writing from APA. No structure or vegetation will be permitted on the easement that prohibits maintenance of line of sight along the pipeline easement.

2. No use of Easement for wastewater application

No wastewater shall be applied on the easement, either by above or underground means. This shall be clearly indicated in the 'Environmental Assessment'.

3. Amend Proposal Modification Plan

The Modification plan should be amended to remove the Eastern Irrigation Area from APA's pipeline easement.

4. Third Party Works Authorisation

Prior to the commencement of any works within the transmission gas pipeline easement, the proponent must seek a third party works authorisation from APA for approval. Works within the easement must comply with any conditions attached to a third party works approval.

5. Easement Delineation On Site

During construction, the boundary of the easement must be clearly delineated on site by temporary fencing (or other means as agreed by APA), and clearly marked as a hazardous work zone/ restricted area.

6. Easement Delineation On Plans

All plans which include the area of the gas pipeline easement must have the easement clearly identified with hatching on the full width of the easement. The easement must also be clearly labelled as *'high pressure gas pipeline easement – no works to occur without the prior authorisation of the pipeline operator'*.

Note

If you are planning on undertaking any physical works on property containing or proximate to a pipeline, or are seeking details on the physical location of a pipeline, please contact Dial Before you Dig on 1100 or <https://www.1100.com.au/>, or APA directly on APAprotection@apa.com.au.

Note

An early works agreement from APA is required for any assessments/approvals that require greater than 3 days assessment or supervision. Lead in times for agreements can be up to 12 weeks. Please contact APA at APAprotection@apa.com.au or 1800 103 452.

Note

Any improvements within the transmission gas pipeline easement undertaken by third parties is at the risk of the proponent who will remain liable. APA will not be liable for any costs associated with the reinstatement of any vegetation and/or infrastructure constructed on the easement.

Note

APA has a suite of standard engineering drawings to assist with detailed design. These are available upon request. Please contact APA at APAprotection@apa.com.au or 1800 103 452.

APA does not seek to unnecessarily inhibit future development proximate to our assets and is happy to work development proponents to achieve mutually acceptable and compliant outcomes. Any interested parties are strongly encouraged to contact APA early to discuss the process of integrating APA assets into future developments.

Should you wish to discuss the contents of this correspondence, or have any further queries, please contact me on 07 3223 3385 or the Infrastructure Planning & Protection team at planningnsw@apa.com.au.

Yours faithfully,



Ben Setchfield
Senior Urban Planner
Infrastructure Planning and Protection