International Power

APPENDIX B

Statutory Authority Correspondence

URS

Australian Government

Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Ref: 06/5562

28 May 2007

Chris Jack
URS Australia Pty Ltd
Level 3
116 Miller Street
North Sydney NSW 2060

Proposed Parkes Gas Fired Power Station (NSW)

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your email of 14 May 2007 addressed to Anthony Rohead concerning the proposed Parkes Gas Fired Power Station in New South Wales.

I can advise you that CASA has firmed up on how these types of hazards can be best addressed, and that the four important issues for us when assessing these types of facilities are detailed below.

Firstly, we will look at the effect the plume may have on aircraft operations. We have received your plume rise study and will use the results of this in considering the impact on aircraft operations.

Our next step is to liaise with Airservices Australia to establish whether or not the plume will have an effect on any instrument procedures. I have sent the information off to Airservices Australia and will await their assessment. If there is an impact on any instrument procedures Airservices Australia will need to amend the procedure prior to the power Station becoming operational.

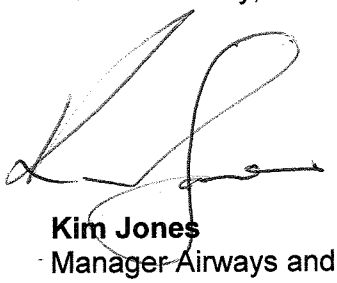
Following this, we need to ensure that pilots are made aware of the plume so thy can avoid the hazard. This will be done by marking the airspace above the power station as a danger area on the relevant aeronautical charts. The aeronautical chart production cycle requires approximately six months advance notice, therefore we will need six months notice of the facility becoming operational to get it on the appropriate chart.

Finally, once the facility is in operation we may need to ask for conspicuous marking and lighting if the facility is not able to be easily identified by pilots both day and night. This is because pilots need to be able to clearly identify the hazard if they are to avoid it.

I would also take this opportunity to point out that the responsibility for the creation of the hazard rests with the owner/operator of the facility and the agency that approves it. Once the hazard is created it can't be removed, however it can be minimised by putting in place the safety measures such as those outlined above.

Can you please let me know the likely timetable for the approval and commissioning of the power station? Also, can you please let me know if there are any changes in the scope of the project that may affect the plume study results?

Yours sincerely,



Kim Jones
Manager Airways and Aerodromes

NSW Government

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Contact: Tim Baker
Phone: (02) 6841 7531
Fax: (02) 6884 0096
Email: Tim.Baker@dnr.nsw.gov.au

File: DUB0109301-1

Chris Jack
URS Australia Pty Ltd
Level 3 Miller Street
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060

cc: Ben Holmes, DoP

18 December 2006

Dear Mr Jack

Subject: PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL POWER PEAKING GAS FIRED POWER PLANT – PARKES NSW

I refer to your letter dated 12th December 2006 regarding the preparation of an environmental assessment under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* for a proposed Gas Turbine Peaking Power Station at Parkes. The Department recognises that it is the intention of URS to submit the environmental assessment to Department of Planning prior to Christmas 2006 which indicates there is a limited time frame for consultation with DNR and incorporation of their requirements. The Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the preliminary environmental assessment and provides the following information as the basis for the requirements of an environmental assessment.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICY

- *Water Act 1912*
- *Native Vegetation Act 2003*
- NSW Groundwater Quality Protection Policy
- NSW Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Policy
- NSW State Soils Policy

1. KEY PROJECT SPECIFIC ISSUES

The Department has identified that the following issues are likely to be of key significance to the environmental assessment of the proposed development.

1.1. Water Requirements

The EA must address the following issues in relation to water supply for the proposed development:

- The proposed site is located within the Upper Lachlan Groundwater Management Area. This GWMA is currently embargoed for certain purposes, hence any proposal for groundwater extraction needs to be assessed within the context of these provisions.

- Water resource information required for the proposed development will include an approximate water budget for the development including water use requirements, existing or proposed water supply sources and infrastructure.
- Proposed surface water supply sources should include details of the relevant water authority administering the supply. If this authority is the Department of Natural Resources (for surface water or groundwater) details of the licensing requirements or relevant water licences, such as licence number, licence conditions and volumetric allocations should be included.
- The requirements for pumping stations and water supply pipelines.
- A full impact assessment is to be provided if groundwater or surface water is proposed to be used.
- Details of any potential issues with surrounding landholders and water licence holders, and identify any impacts associated with the construction of water or waste storages.

1.2 Groundwater Management

The EA must address the following issues in relation to groundwater management:

- Details on the groundwater aquifers below the site, or those likely to be affected by the proposal. This includes watertable levels, aquifer quality, groundwater flow patterns, and nearby users of the groundwater resource.
- An assessment of the risk of accessions or contamination of groundwater aquifers from the proposed development. This should address the requirements of the NSW State Groundwater Policy Framework including the State Groundwater Quality Protection Policy and State Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Policy.
- Details of a comprehensive soils survey to ensure the site is suitable for the construction of water or waste storages.
- Details to identify potential sources and pathways for pollution including contamination from seepage through stormwater, effluent or solid waste storage or reuse areas.
- Details of mitigation measures as required to ensure groundwater mounding or contamination does not occur from water or waste storage/reuse. This may include leakage detection/collection systems. Details of any proposed leakage detection or collection system should be included. Groundwater monitoring information must provide the following details for any proposed monitoring bore:
    - The location of any proposed monitoring bores/piezometers.
    - The depth of any proposed monitoring bores/piezometers and screening interval.
    - The rationale for the proposed location and depths of monitoring bores.
    - Details of analytes to be monitored.

1.3. Waste Management

Management, treatment and storage of toxic, hazardous, contaminated or potentially polluting substances or wastes. Waste materials should be managed in such a way so as to protect water resources from pollution and degradation. The assessment should include the following:

- Details of all solid and liquid wastes that will be stored on-site.
- Details of the proposed management system for the solid and liquid wastes from the operation of the power plant and any ancillary development. This should include all methods to reuse/recycle waste streams.
- Details of the quality of waste.
- Details of the design and location of detention basins or other structural works required to store wastes. Designs should also assess any requirement for artificial geosynthetic lining and leakage collection/detection systems and be in accordance with the requirements of the NSW State Groundwater Policy framework.

2. SECONDARY PROJECT ISSUES

2.1 Erosion and Sediment Control

Details of sediment and erosion control measures to be put in place during construction of the proposed plant and for ongoing management. Soil and water management is to be in accordance with the standards outlined in the publication, "*Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction*" (Landcom 2004). Particular attention should be given to the management of water runon to the site and runoff from the site at all stages of development and operation.

2.2 Surface Water Management

Runoff from the development site, infrastructure, access roads and other features of the development, together with runoff water management and water quality impacts for water passing through, leaving and flowing adjacent to the site.

2.2 Rehabilitation

Information is required in relation to rehabilitation of the operation. This should include;

- Conceptual end-use landforms,
- Soil (topsoil/subsoil) management,
- Ongoing rehabilitation of all disturbed areas,
- Revegetation techniques and seeding proposals, including species and rates (both for stability of disturbed areas during the operation and final end-use),
- Tree planting proposals including width and locations of buffer plantings,
- A maintenance program for rehabilitation and planting's.
- Management, maintenance and possible enhancement of vegetation associated with the proposal.

2.3 Flooding

Flooding characteristics of the site should be examined due to the proximity of Ridgey Creek. An assessment should include details on:

- 1: 100 year flooding zone
- Vulnerability of detention/sediment basins to inundation or rupture,
- Potential impact of rupture or inundation of storages,
- Likely flooding frequency, and
- Development potential to change flooding patterns

2.4 Visual Impact

The Department advises that the visual impact from adjacent roads and residences may be softened by using native vegetation buffer zones adjoining the proposed development. Buffer zones should utilise native tree and shrub species that are naturally endemic to the area.

2.5 Environmental Monitoring Program

A monitoring program should be developed to determine the effectiveness of environmental impact management and mitigating strategies. To be most effective, this monitoring program should be developed during the scoping process along with other key environmental impacts which are identified for analysis.

The Department has provided this information to assist in the management of natural resources within the zone of impact of the proposed Gas Fired Power Station. If further information or clarification is required please do not hesitate to contact Tim Baker on telephone (02) 6841 7531.

Yours sincerely

Tim Baker
Natural Resource Project Officer,
NR Planning Unit
Landscapes and CMA Support

URS

12 December 2006
Project No. 43177456

Department of Natural Resources
PO Box 717
Dubbo NSW 2830

Attention: Tim Baker

Dear Mr Baker,

Subject: Proposed International Power Peaking Gas Fired Power Plant, Parkes, NSW

URS has been commissioned by International Power (Australia) Pty Ltd ("IPRA") to prepare an Environmental Assessment for a proposed Gas Turbine Peaking Power Station at Parkes. It is intended that the Environmental Assessment be completed and submitted to the Department of Planning prior to Christmas 2006.

During the next decade, NSW will experience growth in electricity demand that will exceed existing generation capacity. New South Wales is the largest region of the National Electricity Market (NEM) in terms of capacity and demand for energy and is also experiencing the strongest demand growth. Further, TransGrid (the NSW State-owned high voltage transmission system operator) has sought, inter alia, generation solutions to relieve increasing constraint problems across its transmission system. One such problem area is in the Parkes region in central NSW.

It is in response to these forecast growth and system problems that IPRA is proposing to construct a 120MW gas-fired peaking power plant at a site approximately 10 kilometres west of Parkes.

The plant will comprise three gas turbine generators, each of nominal 40MW capacity. The heated exhaust gases will be discharged to atmosphere through a stack which, subject to air modelling and detailed design, may be up to 30m in height.

The process water is used in inlet air coolers, producing a small waste stream of water which would be directed to an evaporation pond. Water would be stored in four tanks on site for fire services, process and domestic use. There are three viable sources of water available for process water, being grey; rain and town (potable water).

The site is located in the Parkes Local Government Area and is approximately 300km northwest of Sydney, 30km north of the Forbes Township.

URS Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 46 000 691 690)
Level 3, 116 Miller Street
North Sydney, NSW 2060 Australia
Tel: 61 2 8925 5500
Fax: 61 2 8925 5555

URS

Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ('**EP&A Act**') applies to the Parkes Power Plant Project. If Project Approval is granted by the Minister for Planning ('**Minister**') International Power propose to commence operation by late 2008, with construction commencing the latter part of 2007.

Attached is the Project Application document with additional information about the project.

We understand that it is possible that projects of this nature may require consideration by the Department of Natural Resources regarding the impact the project may have on natural resources such as water, vegetation and soil management. The findings of the impact assessments relating to these issues will be made available as part of the Environment Assessment.

If you wish provide earlier comment on this proposal, it would be appreciated if in the first instance you contact the undersigned by calling (02) 8925 5660.

Yours sincerely,
URS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

C. M. Jack

Chris Jack
Principal

URS

11 December 2006
Project No. 43177401

Civil Aviation Services Authority
GPO Box 2005
Canberra City ACT 2601

Attention: Kim Jones
Manager, Airways and Aerodromes

Dear Mr Jones,

Subject: Proposed International Power Peaking Gas Fired Power Plant, Parkes, NSW

URS has been commissioned by International Power (Australia) Pty Ltd ("IPRA") to prepare an Environmental Assessment for a proposed Gas Turbine Peaking Power Station at Parkes. The intent of this correspondence is to provide an opportunity for comment on the proposal.

During the next decade, NSW will experience growth in electricity demand that will exceed existing generation capacity. New South Wales is the largest region of the National Electricity Market (NEM) in terms of capacity and demand for energy and is also experiencing the strongest demand growth. Further, TransGrid (the NSW State-owned high voltage transmission system operator) has sought, inter alia, generation solutions to relieve increasing constraint problems across its transmission system. One such problem area is in the Parkes region in central NSW.

It is in response to these forecast growth and system problems that IPRA is proposing to construct a 120 MW gas-fired peaking power plant at a site approximately 10 kilometres west of Parkes.

The plant will comprise three gas turbine generators, each of nominal 40MW capacity. The heated exhaust gases will be discharged to atmosphere through a stack which, subject to air modelling and detailed design, may be up to 30m in height.

All emissions from the site will be controlled to ensure compliance with the NSW Clean Air Act and POEO and the specific licence conditions applicable to the site.

The Site is located in the Parkes Local Government Area and is approximately 300km northwest of Sydney, 30 km north of the Forbes Township.

URS Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 46 000 691 690)
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Fax: 61 2 8925 5555

URS

Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ('**EP&A Act**') applies to the Parkes Peaking Power Plant Project. The Department of Planning issued the Environmental Assessment Requirements on the 25 October 2006.

IPRA proposes to complete the Environmental Assessment Report for the Power Plant Project by the end of 2006. If Project Approval is granted by the Minister for Planning ('**Minister**') International Power propose to commence operation by late 2008, with construction commencing the latter part of 2007.

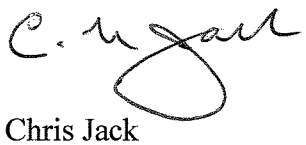
Attached is the Project Application document with additional information about the project.

We understand that projects of this nature require consideration from an aviation viewpoint regarding the vertical speed and temperature of the plume and their effect on aviation. We understand that this requires a plume assessment to be undertaken and details addressed relating to the possible coalescence of plumes in differing wind and atmospheric conditions.

As part of the Environmental Assessment, an air quality modelling assessment is being conducted using The Air Pollution Model (TAPM) to assess if any discharge from the power plant may create a danger area for air navigation. This assessment will be made available as part of the Environment Assessment.

If you wish provide earlier comment on this proposal, it would be appreciated if in the first instance you contact the undersigned by calling (02) 8925 5660.

Yours sincerely,
URS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD



Chris Jack
Principal

PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL

Progress, opportunities and a quality lifestyle for our residents

AJ

Contact Person: Andrew Johns

5 October 2007

Mr Chris Jack
Principal Sustainability Consultant
URS Australia Pty Ltd
Level 3, 116 Miller Street
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060

Dear Sir

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO: S9/92 - PORTIONS 503 & 505 PARISH OF CURRAJONG, CONDOBOLIN ROAD, PARKES

I refer to the abovementioned Development Application. Council writes to advise that consent has lapsed.

Should you have any further queries, please contact Council's Manager Development Services, Andrew Johns on (02) 6861 2373.

Yours faithfully

per:
Steven Campbell
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

Alan McCormack
GENERAL MANAGER

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