Re: Narrabri Gas Project
(SSD 6455)

I refer to the exhibition of the Narrabri Gas Project and provide the following submission.

It is acknowledged that the proposed development is located approximately 20km south of Narrabri. However, based on Council’s experience with the existing mining development in the region, the impacts of the proposed development will also be experienced in the Gunnedah Local Government Area (LGA).

Council would question the adequacy of the submitted Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), particularly Chapter 26 - Social and Health.

The EIS claims that the construction workforce will predominantly reside in the existing short-term accommodation facilities in Narrabri and Boggabri, which are also utilised by the mining development in the area. There is no detail as to how many of the existing or proposed beds are available for the Narrabri Gas Project. It further notes that additional accommodation is to be provided at the Westport Worker’s accommodation, but no detail is provided in regard to the number of beds available at this facility.

Based on Gunnedah’s experience in the mining sector, Council would anticipate that employees will also reside in the Gunnedah LGA. Hence, the EIS should contain a more detailed assessment of the impacts on the Gunnedah LGA.

The document also fails to acknowledge the existing services within the Gunnedah Local Government Area, such as the Gunnedah Hospital, and the impact of the development on the health and education services in the region.

The EIS notes the social infrastructure and services challenges, but does identify how the development will impact on these services or any proposed mitigation measures. There is also not proposal to annually review the development impacts.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Council’s Manager Development & Planning, Carolyn Hunt on 6740 2100.

Yours faithfully

Carolyn Hunt
MANAGER DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

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