

09 December 2020

Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
Resource Assessments |
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Emily Murray

**REVIEW OF DRAFT COMMENTS - SSI 9837: NEWCASTLE POWER STATION PROJECT,
LOT: 2 & 3 DP: 1023561, 1940 PACIFIC HIGHWAY TOMAGO**

On 04 December 2020 Transport for NSW (TfNSW) accepted the referral by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) through the Planning Portal regarding the draft conditions of approvals for abovementioned application. DPIE referred the application to TfNSW for comment. This letter is a submission in response to that referral.

TfNSW's primary interests are in the road network, traffic and broader transport issues. In particular, the efficiency and safety of the classified road network, the security of property assets and the integration of land use and transport.

TfNSW have reviewed the draft condition provided with the referral and provide following comments:

TfNSW considers the conditions proposed by DPIE do not adequately address the issues we have been raising for the project.

Please refer to the following:


- TfNSW's comments have been consistent in relation to the impacts potentially caused by the proposal to our future Motorway project. The M1 Motorway extension to Raymond Terrace is a Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) project that must be catered for with the power station proposal. There are still deficiencies with the Conditions proposed below, particularly relating to the electricity transmission lines and the gas storage pipelines. It is also an issue that we do not have all proposed Conditions to review, particularly when there are references to other Conditions that we do not have vision of to review.
- Electricity Transmission Lines

- The draft condition is not written where any proposals over Old Punt Road are required to the satisfaction of TfNSW. This is an absolute necessity as any proposals from AGL that impact upon the movement of freight along Old Punt Road would not be accepted in any way by TfNSW.
 - The M1 Motorway extension to Raymond Terrace is a project listed on the Australian Government Infrastructure Priority List and has been fully committed for funding. The project is also identified in multiple State Government Plans with a primary focus to provide improved road network conditions for the movement of freight.
 - As identified during our various discussions and responses to the Power Station proposal, access for freight including Over-size and over-mass (OSOM) vehicles is critical to improving freight conditions.
 - TfNSW has developed a strategy and designed the Motorway project to cater for OSOM vehicles and the inclusion of Electricity Transmission lines at a height lower than the existing lines must be subject to the approval of TfNSW as this has the potential to negate the entire access strategy for freight entering and existing Tomago.
 - ACTION: Condition B2 (a) must be revised to state "...or an alternative height, to the satisfaction of TfNSW and the Secretary.
- Gas Storage Pipeline
 - The definition of the gas storage pipelines is not clear at all in the conditions.
 - There are two new gas storage pipelines proposed as part of the Power Station, that TfNSW is aware of, that are of major interest. The conditions do not identify or separate the definition of these gas pipelines.
 - Gas Storage Pipeline 1 – crossing to connect existing gas from Old Punt Road to Station located near new site access
 - Presumed that Condition B1 discusses this proposed work
 - Condition B1 appears sound and addresses the issues at this location with the exception of improving the description of this pipeline as it is different from that proposed in draft Condition B2.
 - Gas Storage Pipeline 2 – proposed directionally drilled crossing across Old Punt Road near the Pacific Highway
 - This should not be part of Condition B2. The electricity issues and the Gas Pipeline are different matters that warrant different conditions.
 - Reviewing with the information at hand, Condition B2 (b) offers no information relevant to addressing TfNSW's matters as we have not received Condition B8(b) to comment upon.
 - No further review can be carried out until this is received for complete review and understanding of the condition being proposed.
- Draft Condition B3 (g)
 - This proposed condition is in reference to the emergency access to the Power Station.
 - It is recognised that discussions have been held with AGL regarding this emergency access but the approved location must have conditions included that it is to be provided to the satisfaction of Transport as it will be crossing and entering TfNSW land and major roads.

- The Condition should possibly be separated out as separate condition and be to the satisfaction of TfNSW.

Should you require further information please contact Kumar Kuruppu, Development Assessment Officer, on 0429 037 333 or by emailing development.hunter@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Marler', with a large circular flourish at the start.

Peter Marler
Manager Land Use Assessment
Hunter Region