

MINUTES OF THE WESTERN REGION PLANNING PANEL MEETING HELD AT LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL ON FRIDAY, 16 APRIL 2010 AT 11:00 AM

PRESENT:

Gabrielle Kibble	Chair
Gordon Kirkby	Panel Member
Ruth Fagan	Panel Member
Neville Castle	Panel Member
Andrew Muir	Panel Member

IN ATTENDANCE

Gary Wallace	Planning Officer – Lithgow City Council
Jim Sheehan	Building Surveyor – Lithgow City Council

APOLOGY: NIL

The meeting commenced at 11:00 am. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Panel.

1. Declarations of Interest

2. Business Items

ITEM 1 - 2009WES003 – Lithgow – DA 190-09DACC – Pyrotechnics Facility Rebuild, 581 Portland Road, Wallerawang

3. Public Submission -

Natalie McCullagh	Addressed the panel against the application for the following reasons, their property adjoins the Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics factory and they do not consider 350m as a large enough buffer zone as the blast, blew 90% of their windows out. Submitted a letter to the Panel from Bruce McCullagh against the application
B Dowsett	Spoke against the application for the following reasons, lives 500m from factory, does not believe the factory should operate in the area, wants the buffer zone extended and has received no compensation for insurance excess from Howard & Sons after the explosion.
Di Van Der Velden	Addressed the panel against the application for the following reasons; Commonwealth Bank Insurance refuses to reinsure her since the blast, Howard & Sons have commenced work on buildings not yet approved by council, feels that building of

Patsy Moppett (on behalf of the applicant)	<p>bunkers will compromise safe distance and offer less protection, Wants further clarification.</p> <p>Addressed the panel in favour of the item and addressed public speakers concerns.</p>
Andrew Howard (applicant)	<p>She said there were some concerns regarding replication and duplication within the report and the proposed conditions of consent. She said the applicant wanted to suggest minor changes to DA proposal and EIS. She sought further clarification from JRPP.</p> <p>Addressed the panel in favour of the item and assured the panel that the proposal was principally to improve safety at the site.</p>

Gary Wallace confirmed that a breach of the EP & A Act had occurred and that the owners were issued with a Penalty Infringement Notice.

Mr Castle stated that Council would not allow any compromise with respect to safety, but would allow minor alterations to the consent conditions. He confirmed that no fireworks would be stored in shipping containers under the current development proposal.

4. Business Item Recommendations

2009WES003 – Lithgow – DA 190-09DACC – Pyrotechnics Facility Rebuild, 581 Portland Road, Wallerawang

The Panel unanimously agreed to defer the application.

The Panel requests that Lithgow Council staff and the applicant liaise to prepare revised documentation and a further report.

Revised documentation to clarify the proposal should include:

- a clear description of the project identifying the components that approval is sought for,
- removal of all inconsistencies and irregularities in the proposed conditions of consent eg small amount of fireworks,
- A map to illustrate the area that the DA covers clearly identifying the uses of each facility,
- clarify what fireworks will be tested on site and the place and process for testing, and
- show removal of all shipping containers from the site or a clear listing of what will be stored in them.

The community/ objectors should be given an opportunity to better understand the nature, complexity and scale of the proposal and must be informed of any revisions/ modifications to the proposal.

The Panel indicated that they could reconvene with short notice when the revisions / clarifications to the proposal were carried out.

The meeting concluded at 12:45 pm

Endorsed by

Gabrielle Kibble
Chair, Western Region Planning Panel
25 May 2010