

RECORD OF BRIEFING

NORTHERN REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL

BRIEFING DETAILS

BRIEFING DATE / TIME	Thursday, 17 June 2021, 1:20pm and 1:45pm
LOCATION	Via videoconference

BRIEFING MATTER

PPSNTH-78 – Tamworth – DA2021-0317 - 1599 New England Highway KOOTINGAL

Construction of a 5MW solar farm

PANEL MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE	Paul Mitchell, Stephen Gow, Stephen Bartlett and James Treloar
APOLOGIES	Penny Holloway
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	None

OTHER ATTENDEES

COUNCIL ASSESSMENT STAFF	Mitch Gillogly, Anna La and Sam Lobsey
DEPARTMENT	Carolyn Hunt and Lisa Foley

KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED

- Anticipate lifespan of solar farm is 35 years
- Issues raised in two objections
- Visual amenity is an issue submitters have requested an additional setback
- Council is working with the applicant on traffic impact, particularly during construction
- TfNSW raised concerns about number of movements and size of vehicles during construction
- Panel asked about access to the site during construction asked for issue to be addressed in assessment report rather than deferred for the construction certificate.
- Compliance with BCD requirements raised during pre-lodgement, but Council not satisfied that all information has been provided.
- Biodiversity Conservation Science Division has been consulted.
- Panel requested montage to illustrate the visual amenity impact on adjoining properties
- Lawfulness of road access
- Decommissioning plan

TENTATIVE DETERMINATION DATE SCHEDULED FOR August or September 2021