



Ref: DA2021/0145
Contact Person: Bill Vanry

26/10/2021

SOUTHERN REGION PLANNING PANEL

**RE: PPSSTH-89 – RECORD OF DEFERRAL DA2021/0145 AT LACHLAN VALLEY
WAY BOOROWA 2586 – SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM (5MW SOLAR FARM)**

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to your Record of Deferral letter dated 15 October 2021 in relation to the application for a Solar Energy System (5MW Solar Farm) over Lachlan Valley Way, Boorowa; being Planning Panel application number PPSSTH-89.

It is understood the Planning Panel seeks further clarification with reference to Clause 66(1)(a) of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007* with respect to the potential safety risks to the integrity of the APA gas pipeline in the vicinity of the development, as well as some changes to conditions.

In response to the specific requested information in the letter dated 15 October 2021 (shown in *italics*), Council provides the following:

1. A plan clearly showing the location of APA gas pipeline and easement and its relationship to the proposed development.

Please see the imagery below showing the APA Gas pipeline Easement in relation to the subject site. The subject site is annotated in red, and the existing gas pipeline easement is shown in red to the southwest of the subject site.

In addition, the submitted General Arrangement Plan Drawing No. BOO1B-G-2100 Rev. 3 annotates that the gas pipeline is 269.7 metres away to the south west.

It is clear the gas pipeline is not at risk from the proposed development but did trigger a statutory referral to APA Group under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*.



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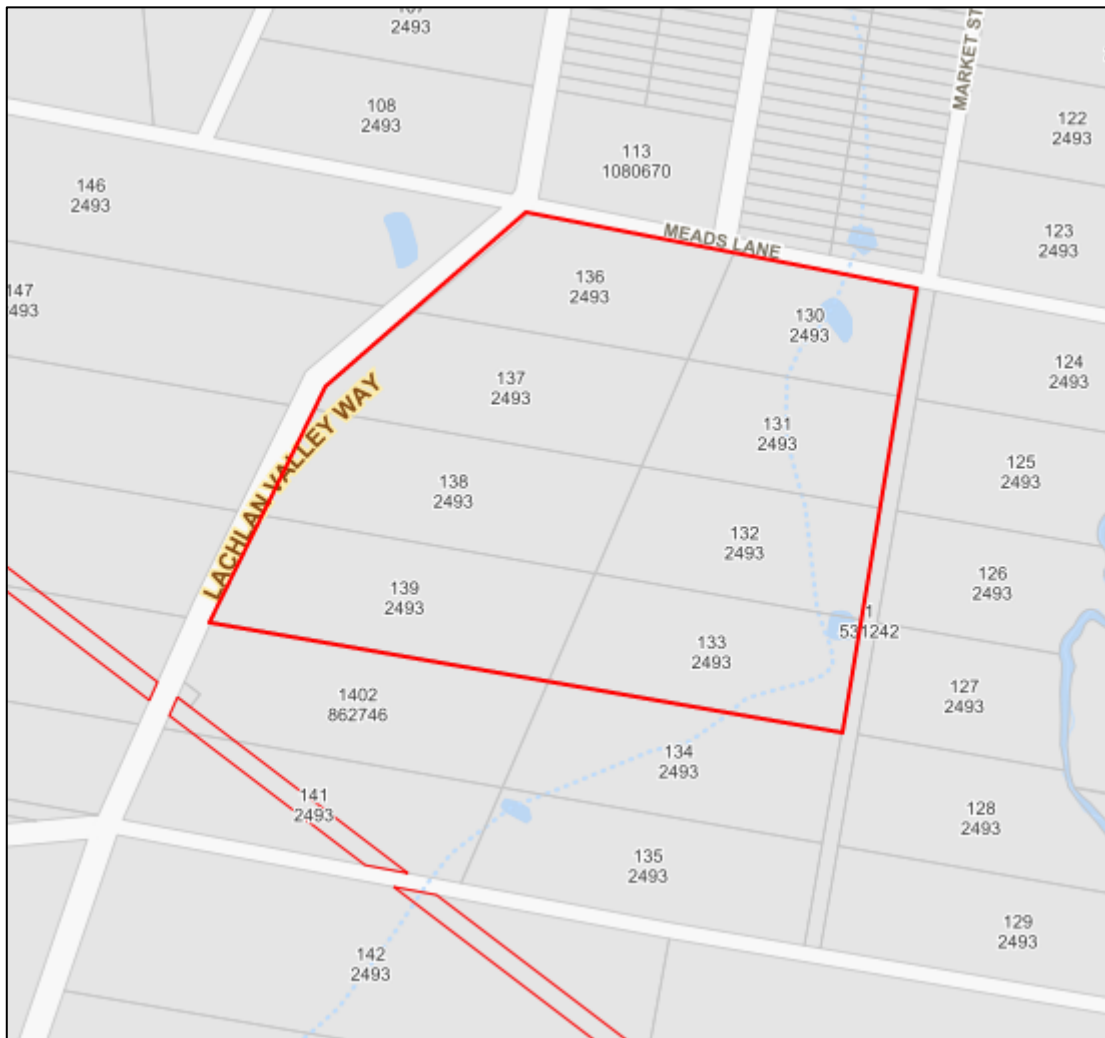
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2. Advice by way of an assessment of the potential safety risks to the integrity of the APA gas pipeline

In accordance with Clause 66(1)(a) of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007*, Council referred the application to APA Group as the owner of the asset licensed under the *Pipeline Act 1967*, who must operate the pipelines in a manner that minimises adverse environmental impacts and protects the public from health and safety risks.

APA Group have assessed the potential safety risks of the proposed development and have provided recommended conditions of consent as **enclosed**. Importantly, APA Group confirm the gas pipelines and associated Easement are located approximately 270 metres south-west of the proposed solar farm at the closest point.

AS/NZS 4853:2012 Electrical Hazards on Metallic Pipelines (as referenced in APA Group's submission) is concerned with the impacts of high voltage power networks within proximity to gas pipelines. It is confirmed the proposed electricity connection point is to the north of the solar farm as per the submitted plans. Council considers the potential risk of the development to the existing gas infrastructure to be negligible. Notwithstanding,

Council have included the APA Group recommended conditions of consent to ensure all risk management procedures are adhered to at the design stage.

3. Amended conditions of consent.

All amended conditions of consent have been included into the revised recommendation as **enclosed**.

I trust this information is sufficient in addressing your concerns. Should you have any further questions or would like additional information, please contact Council's Planning Team on 1300 445 586, or via email on mail@hilltops.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Vanry', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Bill Vanry
LAND USE PLANNER