

BRIEFING DETAILS

BRIEFING DATE / TIME	Tuesday, 1 March 2022, 12pm to 12.25pm
LOCATION	Videoconference

BRIEFING MATTER(S)

PPSWES-127 – Gilgandra - DA 2021/430

361 OXLEY HIGHWAY GILGANDRA

Installation of a 5MW solar farm comprising 12,000 solar modules & two 3.4MW inverter stations.

PANEL MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE	Garry Fielding (Chair), Sandra Hutton, Brian Mockler, Greg Peart
APOLOGIES	Graham Brown
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	Greg Peart advised that one of the submitters is a relative of his mother-in-law but considered this was a non-pecuniary, inconsequential interest, and therefore remained in the meeting

OTHER ATTENDEES

COUNCIL ASSESSMENT STAFF	Lindsay Mathieson
OTHER	Carolyn Hunt, Brianna Cheeseman - DPE

KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED

- Overview of proposal outlined
- Site inspected by Council Panel member
- Landscaping is proposed on the eastern and northern boundaries (width of 5m), with existing vegetation (eucalyptus and black cypress) located in the road reserve (including the Oxley Highway)
 - Additional cluster landscaping recommended in north-east corner to further reduce the potential view from Timbara Court
 - Stock proof fencing to be located on the outside of the landscaping
- Biodiversity issues have been outlined in the supporting documentation and considered by Council
- 2 submissions received.
- Access proposed from Aralee Road with a national heavy vehicle permit obtained. Access from Aralee Road supported by Council due to existing intersection treatment and length of construction period.
- Draft conditions have been provided to the applicant. Proposed to reduce the number of car parking spaces to 1 on site, with other condition amendments not supported by Council.
- Spiny burr grass identified on the site which is classified as a weed to be managed. Site Management Plan recommended.

Planning Panels Secretariat

- Local Aboriginal Land Council contacted in relation to the development, with no response received to date. AHIMS search did not identify any identified heritage items. Recommended that applicant consult with LALC.
- Aralee Road provides access to adjacent rural residential area and is proposed to be utilised by construction traffic. Traffic Management Plan required to manage any potential conflict with rural residential traffic movements.

TENTATIVE DETERMINATION DATE SCHEDULED FOR 15/03/2022