

BRIEFING DETAILS

BRIEFING DATE / TIME	Thursday, 3 June 2021, 1- 1:30pm (on site) and 2pm – 2:30pm (Council offices). Site inspection undertaken before briefing
LOCATION	On site, and at Dubbo Regional Council chambers

BRIEFING MATTER(S)

PPSWES-78 – Dubbo Regional Council– DA21-211 – 47R Wellington Road Dubbo– Electricity generating works (solar farm)

PANEL MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE	Garry Fielding (Chair), Graham Brown, Sandra Hutton, Lindsay Mathieson, Josie Howard
APOLOGIES	None
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	None

OTHER ATTENDEES

COUNCIL ASSESSMENT STAFF	Josh Smith, Tracey Smart, Shaun Reynolds, Cathy Ching
OTHER	Jane Gibbs, Kim Holt (DPIE)

The Panel notes that Council has recently provided an assessment report. Panel has not yet had a chance to review the assessment report. All comments now are in advance of looking at that. The assessment officer noted that there is an error in Condition 13 –where it refers to Sheraton Rd but should be Basalt Road. The officer will send a memo to amend.

Key issues discussed:

1. Biodiversity assessment

The Panel notes that a biodiversity assessment was undertaken for the site and is dated March 2021.

2. Noise impacts

The Panel notes that there were a number of recommendations contained on page 35 of the noise impact statement and requests that these be included in the consent conditions. The assessment officer advised that these issues have been included as Condition 10.

3. Landscape Plan

The Panel noted that the Landscape Plan was well considered.

4. Flood, water, drainage and stormwater management

The Panel noted that the applicants submitted a flood, water and drainage assessment.

Planning Panels Secretariat

The Panel asked how stormwater was to be managed noting that sometimes swales or basins are used. The assessment officer advised that the site is not considered to have significant stormwater flow – and impacts post development were expected to be similar to pre-development scenario. It was noted that the farm road that has been recently constructed on the subject site has channelised the flow of water on the site.

5. Fencing

The Panel noted that the fence for this site is proposed to be 1.8m high. From an aesthetic perspective, the Panel noted that the fence does not include barbed wire – and that no barbed wire is preferred.

The Panel chair requested the assessment officer check the regulatory requirement for fencing of solar farms.

SCHEDULED PANEL MEETING DATE: 7 June 2021 by electronic determination