

Terry Johannesen

From: Owen Dalton <owen.dalton@rpsgroup.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 April 2014 3:26 PM
To: Duncan Mortimer
Subject: Mt Emerald Wind Farm - Discussions with MSF Sugar

Duncan,

I confirm that, in response to Item 50 of TRC's Information request, I have initiated discussions with MSF Sugar Limited (who now own the sugar mill formerly operated by Bundaberg Sugar), regarding any issues or concerns they may have regarding traffic impacts associated with the proposed Mt Emerald Wind Farm project. Whilst awaiting the opportunity to sit down "face to face" with MSF representatives, their feedback to date has been to confirm that the only real concerns they have relate to potential conflicts between cane haul traffic, using Hansen Road and Springmount Road during the crushing season, and heavy vehicle traffic using the same roads during the construction phase of the proposed development. However, it is their view that these potential conflicts can be appropriately managed and mitigated by establishing a communication protocol between the construction contractors and the operations management at the Mill, such that the mill is given appropriate advanced warning (nominally 24 hours) of scheduled heavy vehicle movements upon Hansen and/or Springmount Roads. With such advanced warning, the Mill would be able to notify cane haul drivers (who are in constant communication with the haulage operations centre at the mill) of expected heavy vehicle movement times, whilst also allowing the mill to opportunity to reschedule cane deliveries so as to minimise haul traffic movements during potential conflict periods. I would suggest that it would be acceptable if Council were requested or sought to impose as a condition of approval a requirement to ensure that the project's construction contractors, once appointed, establish an appropriate communications protocol with MSF Sugar so as to provide adequate advanced warning of pending heavy vehicle movements upon the local road network. To ensure the achievement of this outcome, perhaps it would be appropriate that this requirement be embedded within the proposed/required Construction Management Plan, which I suggest would need to be reviewed/approved by Council.

Should my further discussions with MSF highlight any additional issues or concerns, I will advise accordingly.

Regards

Owen



Owen Dalton

Principal - Planning

RPS Australia Asia Pacific

135 Abbott Street, Cairns, QLD, Australia, 4870

PO Box 1949, Cairns, QLD 4870.

Tel: +61 7 4031 1336

Fax: +61 7 4031 2942

Email: owen.dalton@rpsgroup.com.au

www: <http://rpsgroup.com.au>

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