

Council Votes to make submission to NSW Government on Springdale Solar Development

Objections to the Springdale Solar Development closed on Wednesday 29 August 2018. At the time of writing we are not aware of how many have been lodged, however, the SSAG has had strong support from the local community and are very confident with that support and the Council's submission, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment will hold a public hearing into the project.

We followed up our 2 August community meeting by sending all Councillors a copy of the presentation given on the evening, outlining a range of concerns about the project. Andy Hardwicke, Dianne Burgess and Peter Gillett subsequently attended and spoke at the YVC meeting on 22 August.

As a result of their presentations Council resolved that a submission be made to the Department of Planning & Environment on the proposed development on the following grounds:

1. The location is inconsistent with the Yass Valley Settlement Strategy and likely to negatively impact on the visual amenity of the area.
2. Locating the development within the proposed RU6 transition zone undermines the intended objectives to protect the open rural landscape and environmental values of the area.
3. The visual assessment is be revised to include all affected dwellings within 2km of the site.
4. Project is to demonstrate how it positively contributes to the habitat connectivity outcomes of the Greater Gooroyaroo project.
5. The Department of Planning and Environment be requested to hold a public hearing locally as part of the assessment process.

6. If approved, all road work and upgrades are required to be consistent with Council's Roads Standards Policy.
7. If approved, a fund is to be established in accordance with Council's Community Enhancement Fund Policy based on 1% of the capital cost for the project.
8. If approved, the proposed 2.2 metre high security fence is to be located inside the 20 metre wide landscape strip rather than on the boundary to Tallagandra Lane and Tintinhull Road.
9. If approved, the project is to be commenced within 5 years of a Consent being issued and completed within 5 years of commencement.
10. If approved, any landscaping plan is to incorporate species which are endemic to the local area.
11. If approved, alternative waste disposal arrangements are to be made for construction waste.

Councillors Abbey, Burgess, Frost, Harker, Jones, Reid and Turner supported the resolution while Councillors Furry and McManus opposed Council making a submission on the above points.

Pleasingly, councillors had read and digested the SSAG presentation, as it formed the basis of the points identified for their submission.

The SSAG would like to thank the local community for their strong support both in objections to the development and financially. With Council support for our arguments, we are very confident that we can lay out a strong case in any public hearing why the proposed development should not proceed in Sutton.

For further information contact suttonsolaractiongroup@gmail.com or Andy Hardwicke 0412 206 696