

Oura Riverine Protection Inc.

Safeguarding our environment & community

Abattoir and solar factory threat to Oura¹



****What can you do?** - Submit objections to council@wagga.nsw.gov.au
DA23/0598, Eringoarrah Pty Ltd, Livestock Processing Industry - Abattoir

What is at stake

- **Contamination risk to Murrumbidgee river, our water & recreation areas**
- **Danger of polluting odours along the river valley**
- **Significant loss of 'rural landscape' character**
- **Private abattoir, profits repatriated to Scone, Oura bears impact & risk**
- **Industrialisation of Oura jeopardising local tourism**
- **What's next? "We have some very ambitious...goals" = likely expansion**
- **Better alternatives for everyone do exist, it's that simple!**

The Proposal

- Eringoarrah Pty Ltd, operated by Okeview Pastoral Company, Scone, wants a **\$10m abattoir & ancillary power station** at Oura Station, 2052 Oura Rd, Oura, NSW
- 4 buildings, abattoir **height of 2.5 hay sheds** (12m), office/amenities, workshop/storage room, electrical building on **site area of 11 rugby league fields** (8.2ha)
- Located **800m from Eringoarrah's western boundary** and 11km from their eastern
- **For own private use, killing over 6,000 animals** per year [approx. assuming 48 weeks/year] 2,880 cattle, 2,400 sheep and 960 pigs
- Supported by a power station the size of two rugby league fields (1.5ha) with 1,300kW **solar array**, 1,500KWh **battery** and 500KVA **diesel generator**
- Includes **effluent treatment** ponds, waste water screening, re-use irrigation, composting, new roads, loading bay, carpark, yards, fencing, lighting etc.

Key Impacts: Environment & Community

- Abattoir and ancillary power station in **riverine landscape** and close to the Murrumbidgee River, Sandy Creek tributary, lagoons and natural fishery
- In an **area officially listed** as flood sensitive, groundwater vulnerable, protected riparian land, key fish habitat & highly probable groundwater dependant ecosystem
- **Oura is 4.8km nearby** and the Murrumbidgee River is the recreational life blood of the community, tourism and everyone downstream
- On a regional road with little industrial use, enjoyed as **scenic drive and a regular cycle route**, and will include **transport of offal**
- Neighbours include hobby farms, approved lifestyle subdivisions and farm tourism
- **PFAS contamination nearby at Forest Hill highlights need for precaution** to protect our drinking water

¹ Information as known 05/02/24

Alternative Sites and Future Use

- Proponents NIMBY's (not in my backyard) as **replicable site** at main Erringorarah homestead with same facilities, similar distance and elevation from river, where it'd be **in sight, sound and smell of no-one but themselves**, but they don't want it
- Say **for animal welfare** they won't truck stock to a site in the purpose built Bomen Industrial precinct **and still plan to truck cattle 600km from Scone** to feed abattoir
- Once a \$10m abattoir with power station is constructed on **Oura Station**, there is no turning back – it will be **condemned forever to inappropriate industrial land use**, as an abattoir and/or feedlot
- **The abattoir**, as designed, **can process** 60 head of cattle per day, given a 24-hour chill - that's 300 per week or about 15,000 per year, **5 times more than proposed** and could be significantly more if the chiller rail is extended

Major Concerns

- **Contamination risk** to groundwater, lagoons, River, Oura Beach and drinking bores
- Cumulative contamination risk given location **next to 3.5 hectare "drought" feedlot**, as well as increased odour from feedlot (recently in use)
- Risk of **polluting odours** from "katabatic drift" along the river valley to Oura
- **Industrialisation of Oura** and risk of more odour from rendering on site in future
- Industrial & solar **fire risk** putting community and volunteer firefighters at higher risk
- Nighttime **light pollution** and daytime **solar glare**
- Loss of rural landscape character **threatens our lifestyle, farming and tourism** and conflicts with surrounding approved subdivision and tourism land uses
- Only for proponent's own use and profit, while **Oura bears the environmental cost and amenity impacts**, as well as the future risks
- Significant **likelihood of future expansion** once abattoir & power station operations established at this site, either by Eringorarah or other industrial operators
- **Regional impact of river and groundwater contamination** from the combined 13 existing, approved and proposed industrial developments on or near the Murrumbidgee River between Gundagai and Wagga Wagga, which includes PFAS

Better Alternatives do Exist

To maintain Oura's natural rural environment for the community's quality of life, recreation, tourism, general amenity and for future generations. This inappropriately located project...

- could be moved elsewhere, further from the river, neighbours and Oura
- could be located in the Bomen industrial precinct
- could instead use mobile processing

Any of these alternatives would provide better outcomes for the environment, neighbours and community, and still meet the scope of the proponent's proposal.

Act now to safeguard what's important about **Oura** - **submit objections, talk to people and join** www.ourariverineprotection.com

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*To protect the natural and rural environment for the community of Oura,
for the benefit of the region and future generations*