

Oura Riverine Protection Inc.

Safeguarding our environment & community

Continued abattoir and solar factory threat¹



New Exhibition period, what to do? - Submit objections by 26/09/24

to council@wagga.nsw.gov.au DA23/0598, Eringoarrah Pty Ltd, Livestock Processing - Abattoir

Amended Development Application does not change what is at stake

- **Contamination risk to Murrumbidgee river, our water & recreation areas**
- **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"**
- **Better alternatives for everyone do exist, it's that simple!**

The Proposal

- Eringoarrah Pty Ltd, operated by Okeview Pastoral Company, Scone, wants **\$11.5m abattoir & ancillary power station** at Oura Station, 2052 Oura Rd, Oura, NSW
- 5 buildings, abattoir **4 stories high** (12m), office/amenities, workshop/storage room, electrical, effluent treatment + existing feedlot **site area of 16 rugby fields** (11.9ha)
- 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 plant**, waste water screening, re-use irrigation, bio-waste storage, 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
- **Officially listed** flood sensitive, groundwater vulnerable, high probable groundwater dependant ecosystem, endangered ecological community & key fish habitat
- **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, manure and gut contents**
- 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 05/09/24

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 Bomen Industrial precinct **and still plan to truck cattle 600km from Scone** + other properties to feed abattoir
- Once a \$11.5m 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 420 per week or about **20,000 per year, 7 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** existing **3.7ha feedlot**, as well as increased odour and dust from feedlot
- 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 tourism and hobby farm subdivisions
- Only for proponent's own use and profit, while **Oura bears the environmental cost and amenity impacts**, as well as the future risks
- **Likelihood of future expansion** once abattoir & power station established at this site, either by Erringorarah or other industrial operators
- **Regional river and groundwater cumulative contamination** risk from 13 existing, approved and proposed industrial developments on or near the Murrumbidgee River from Gundagai to Wagga, on top of existing PFAS contamination

Better Alternatives do Exist

To maintain Oura's natural rural environment for the community's quality of life, recreation, tourism and general amenity 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 and safeguard what's important about **Wagga Wagga** - **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*