Australian Government

**Department of Defence** Defence Support Group

2001/34570/1 LPSI/OUT/2010/45



Mr Neville Osborne Manager - Water and Energy Infrastructure Projects GPO Box 39 SYDNEY, NSW, 2001 Department of Planning Received 2.9 APR 2010

Scanning Room

Dear Sir

## RE: 5.5 MEGAWATT BIOMASS-FIRED POWER STATION (Your ref: MP09\_0034)

Thank you for referring the abovementioned project to the Department of Defence (Defence) for comment. Defence previously provided comment on this project in March 2009 and the safeguarding lines for Eden Navy Wharf (see Attachment A).

Defence notes that the Environmental Assessment now includes information about Defence safeguarding lines. While the final planning decision is a responsibility of the NSW Government, Defence is satisfied that the location of the power station within the purple safeguarding arc for Eden Navy Wharf is acceptable under Defence guidelines.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this advice further, please contact Brenin Presswell, Executive Officer, Land Planning on (02) 6266 8138 or by email at brenin.presswell@defence.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

John Kerwan Director Land Planning & Spatial Information Department of Defence BP3-1-A052 Brindabella Park Canberra ACT 2600

2'2\_April 2010

Cc. RD DSO - SNSW DEOS



LPSI/OUT/2009/54

2001/34570/1

Mr Neville Osborne Team Leader - Energy and Water Major Infrastructure Assessments NSW Department of Planning PO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Osborne

## **RE: PROPOSED SOUTH EAST FIBRE EXPORTS PROPOSED 5MW BASELOAD BIOMASS-FIRED POWER STATION AT EDEN NSW**

Thank you for your letter dated 18 February 2009 requesting the Department of Defence's (Defence) input into the Director-General's Assessment Requirements for the abovementioned development application. Defence understands the proposal is to construct a 5 megawatt biomass-fired power station on land currently owned by South East Fibre Exports (SEFE) Pty Ltd.

For your information the subject land is located adjacent to the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) Eden Navy Wharf. The wharf is an important and enduring Defence facility used primarily for the loading and unloading of ammunition.

The key issue for Defence in relation to its activities at the wharf is to ensure that public safety is maintained when it is in use. In this regard, Defence has developed a series of 'safeguarding lines' and which are activated when loading and unloading activities are occurring. The lines represent areas within which certain land uses and/or buildings, in particular publicly habitable buildings are not desirable from a public safety perspective.

Defence wishes to advise that part of the land owned by SEFE Pty Ltd is affected by the safeguarding lines referred to above. Defence is unable to provide more detailed comments at this time as a plan suitably identifying the specific location of the power station on the site has not been provided. Defence is unable to release a map depicting the location of the safeguarding lines, however, Defence would be able to provide more site-specific advice should a site plan be provided at a later stage.

In general terms however Defence considers that the issues of public safety with respect to the operation of its wharf should be a matter for inclusion in the Environmental Assessment Requirements.

For your reference, two copies of the information booklet *Safeguarding maps for explosive facilities*, prepared by Defence, are included with this letter.

Defence appreciates the opportunity to have input into the Director-General's Requirements for this project to ensure that relevant Defence issues will be considered and would welcome the opportunity to comment on the application itself in the future.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this submission further please contact Brenin Presswell, Executive Officer Land Use Planning, on telephone number (02) 6266 8138 or by e-mail on Brenin.Presswell@defence.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Hadden Maria

John Kerwan

John Kerwan Director Land Planning & Spatial Information Department of Defence BP3-1-A052 Brindabella Park Canberra ACT 2600

March 2009