

# SMK

## CONSULTANTS

surveying – irrigation – environmental – planning - engineering

ABN 63 061 919 003

39 Frome Street  
PO Box 774  
Moree NSW 2400  
Ph 02 6752 1021  
Fax 02 6752 5070  
ptaylor@smk.com.au

[www.smk.com.au](http://www.smk.com.au)

Our reference: 21-433

20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Chris Faley  
Development Services Coordinator  
Civil and Environmental Services  
Inverell Shire Council  
P.O. Box 138  
Inverell NSW 2360

By email: [chris.faley@inverell.nsw.gov.au](mailto:chris.faley@inverell.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Chris,

### **Re: Rivendell Feedlot DA103 - 2021**

Council forwarded a request for additional information on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 in relation to the traffic impact assessment and concerns raised by Essential Energy.

The following provides a response to this request.

#### **Traffic Impact Assessment**

In relation to the intersection of Woodstock Road and the Gwydir Highway, the applicant has advised that he wishes to utilise the intersection “as is” on the basis that it is approved for B-double truck units.

If this is not satisfactory to Council, the applicant will adopt the alternative of utilising standard semi-trailers to haul cattle and product to and from the feedlot via Woodstock Road onto Kings Plains Road as an alternative.

This is mainly a result of the potential cost of upgrading the intersection of Woodstock Road onto the Gwydir Highway. The work would involve reconfiguring the intersection, widening the southern shoulder of the Gwydir Highway to create a BAR, potentially undertaking earthworks to increase the cutting through McCarthys Nob in relation to increasing the line of sight to the east of the intersection. Further discussion is possibly required, subject to comment from Transport for NSW.

This is a common issue for the majority of rural road intersections onto the Gwydir Highway with several examples nearby which are utilised by B-double truck units.

#### **Essential Energy**

Four issues were raised by Essential Energy in relation to the power line crossing the feedlot pens. The following provides a response to these four issues.

#### ***Protecting the Power Poles.***

One power pole is located within the existing feedlot pens. The power pole is located in the southern pens as per following aerial image of the existing pen layout.

**Figure 1: Existing Pen layout showing power poles and power line.**



The proposed development will reduce the pen depth, but the power pole within the pen will remain within the new pen layout.

To protect the power pole and provide complete access to the pole for repair or maintenance work, the new fencing will include establishment of a protective fence around this pole. The fence will consist of four by 3m wide gates. The gates can be opened to allow free access to the power pole and the posts holding the gates will also be removal if required. Appendix 1 presents a sketch of the proposal.

### **Fencing**

The internal fencing for the feedlot pens will consist of typical feedlot fences with a top rail, cables and steel posts at a separation distance of approximately 3m. The following provides a photo of the fencing at Rivendell.

**Figure 2: Typical fencing for Rivendell Feedlot**



Standard fence height will be 1.3m above ground level. The fencing beneath the power line has been in place since 1998. Additional fencing will be installed away from the power line. One internal fence

running beneath the power line will be moved. No significant changes are to occur that will require machinery that may reach a height of 4m or more. New fence posts would be installed using a bobcat with a short auger to drill to a depth of approximately 900mm for the post foundation.

In relation to the points raised by Essential Energy:

- a. No person could reach a height of 4.6m off the ground if they stood on a fence. As identified above, the power pole within the feedlot pens will be separated by a 3m square gate area. If an incident occurs where a stockman stands on top of the gates, the separation distance will be at least 4.6m below the power lines.
- b. The fences are steel and therefore conductive. As requested by Essential Energy, fence construction will include breaks in the fencing with a gap formed by double posts and an earthing system on the fence line sections to avoid issues if a power line falls on the fence.
- c. No electric fences are used within the pens.

In relation to 5m clearance around the one power pole within the feedlot pens, the proposal allows for a 3m wide gate system to protect the pole from cattle. The gates and fencing can be completely removed in a brief period to enable open access by larger service trucks if required. Under such conditions, cattle would be removed from the adjoining pens to provide uninhibited access.

In relation to clearances from the power lines, the height above ground level was provided by the feedlot manager who has operated the site for several years. On this basis, he has confirmed a height above ground level under worst case conditions of sag, which are assumed to occur in summer heat.

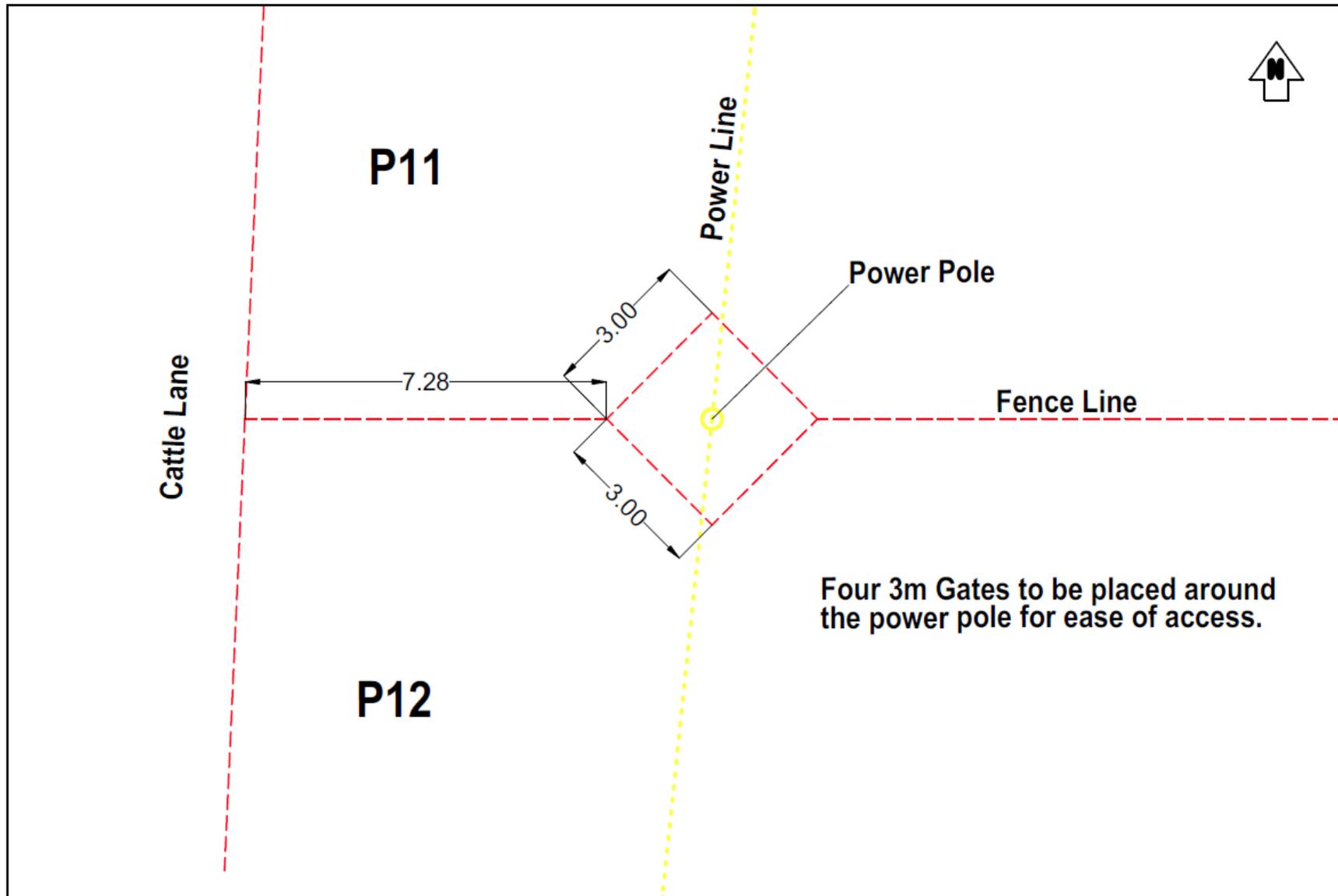
In relation to certification of the proposal, the separation distances have been determined by a registered survey officer as part of the SMK Consultant team.

A plan showing an aerial image with the changes in fencing is presented in appendix 2. No earthworks or changes are required within the pen areas to the existing surface levels. The effluent pond system to be constructed is located downslope of the feedlot and more than 20m from the power line.

Prepared by:

*Peter Taylor* BSc. MEIANZ CIAg LAA  
Environment and Resource Consultant  
Licensed Asbestos Assessor 000 180

Appendix 1: Sketch plan showing proposal for Power Pole protection within feedlot pen



SCALES : HORIZ 1 in 100 (A4) VERT _____ DATUM : _____ SURVEYED : JBARR DESIGNED : JBARR CHECKED : P. TAYLOR	<b>S.M.K. CONSULTANTS</b> surveying - irrigation - environmental PO BOX 774 MOREE 2400 PHONE (02) 67 521021	CLIENT : NA & ML Jamieson PROJECT : Rivendell Feedlot 2000 Head	DESCRIPTION : Power Pole Fencing Layout Plan	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PLAN REVISION :</td> <td>DATE</td> <td>D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>Initial Release</td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td></td> <td>F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td></td> <td>G</td> </tr> </table>	PLAN REVISION :	DATE	D	A	Initial Release	E	B		F	C		G	FILE No. 19-306 DATE 25/01/2022 DRAWING No. 19-306 PP DRAWING FILE : CALC. FILE :
PLAN REVISION :	DATE	D															
A	Initial Release	E															
B		F															
C		G															

Appendix 2: Aerial image of feedlot layout for 2000-head with power line location and contours



CLIENT: NA & ML Jamieson		PROJECT: Rivendell Feedlot 2000 Head		DATE: 19/08/2021	6 of 12
SCALES: HORIZ: 1:3000 VERT: 1:300		A3	SMK CONSULTANTS surveying - irrigation - environmental PO BOX 774 MOREE 2400 PHONE (02) 67 521021	DESCRIPTION: Rivendell Feedlot Site Plan	
DATUM: LOCAL AHD MGA ZONE 58				PLAN REVISION:	
APPROVED: [Signature]	DESIGNED: [Signature]	Checked: [Signature]	Design: [Signature]	A	FIRST ISSUE
CHECKED: [Signature]	Major: 1:6.0m	Minor: 1:6.0m		B	
				C	