

From: [Jessica Allen](#)
To: [Bradley James](#)
Cc: [Tahlia Hutchinson](#)
Subject: RE: Middlebrook Solar Farm – Middlebrook Bridge Condition Assessment
Date: Thursday, 10 October 2024 4:29:29 PM
Attachments: [image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

Hi Brad,

TotalEnergies has provided a Level 2 condition assessment for Middlebrook Bridge. I couldn't find it on the Major Projects website but it was emailed to Council's Development Engineering. Council is still assessing it. I don't think the assessment will be finalised by 5pm today. In our written submission, we recommended that Appendix 5 of the recommended conditions be amended to reflect that a bridge upgrade may be required if the bridge assessment proves unsuitable. The risk of it being unsuitable is low enough that this would still be the appropriate contingency rather waiting for Council to finish its review.

Something that has come up in a preliminary review is that the assessment concludes that the existing structure has a few superficial defects – but is capable of handling the proposed loads without any detrimental effect. The following provisions are stipulated:

- Final vehicle weight is accurately measured, and total/per axle loads confirmed
- Maximum speed on the bridge is limited to 5km per hour
- Traffic management movement plans in place ensuring no co-existing traffic or other loads present on the bridge
- Suitably qualified bridge engineer engaged to undertake quality assurance, control and monitoring on site during passing

I assume that these requirements will be incorporated into any movement permit into which Council would provide input? The Hills of Gold Wind Farm consent included the following footnote associated with OSOM (vehicles requiring escort) conditions:

The Applicant is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over-dimensional vehicles on the road network.

This footnote has not made its way onto the Middlebrook draft consent. It is requested that this footnote is included for clarity and consistency.

Kind regards,
Jessica

Jessica Allen
Senior Development Assessment Planner

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From: Bradley James <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 3 October 2024 2:46 PM
To: Jessica Allen <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Tahlia Hutchinson <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Middlebrook Solar Farm – Middlebrook Bridge Condition Assessment

Hi Jessica,

Hope you are well.

TotalEnergies, the Applicant for the Middlebrook Solar Farm has advised the Commission that an independent Level 2 condition assessment of the Middlebrook Bridge has been undertaken and provided to Council. The Applicant has advised that based on this assessment, the bridge will not require an upgrade to cater for Project related traffic.

Can you confirm Council has received this assessment? and if it addresses Council's concerns regarding the capacity of the bridge raised in our meeting on Wednesday, 18 September?

If you could provide a response by 5pm Thursday, 10 October 2024 that would be much appreciated.

Regards,

Brad James | A/Planning Director

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