

As a local to Catherine Field for over 30 years, I strongly oppose this development application. The project is incompatible with the **rural character** of the area and the site lacks the essential infrastructure to support a development of this scale.

This project doesn't serve the local community, and those living closest to the site are extremely concerned. We need a thorough assessment that prioritises the feedback of local residents who live here and who have actually read the technical documents.

The drop in submissions for the second round isn't due to lack of interest—it's because the Planning Portal is difficult to use. Many people were locked out by login issues or simply couldn't navigate the account setup. Restricting feedback to an online portal while banning email or postal submissions excluded many voices in our community.

The site is located on a narrow road which lacks streetlights, kerb and guttering and stormwater drainage. It is already deteriorating due to heavy traffic. Planned housing and the Camden Valley Way intersection will push capacity to a dangerous level.

How will traffic be managed when hundreds of cars from both directions try to enter one narrow driveway? There is no question that there will be queuing in both directions of Catherine Field road.

The single exit point is on a dangerous bend which will be further obstructed by buses in the bus parking bay. Most concerningly, this traffic chaos will block emergency vehicles as the narrow roads offer no room to bypass congestion.

The installation of the concrete island and right turning lane will not only restrict vehicles from turning right out of the exit driveway. It will also restrict immediate neighbours from turning right out of their own driveways. Yet the claims are that this development will benefit the community. I definitely do not agree!

Another key concern is the absence of any footpaths needed to support the school. Pedestrian footpaths around NSW schools are essential to increase student safety by separating pedestrians from traffic, reducing fatal injuries. With no future plans of footpaths being installed other than the frontage of the site, this proposal should not be approved.

Catherine Field currently lacks a connection to the sewer mains with no confirmed timeline for completion, making the proposed sub-surface irrigation and pump-out system entirely inadequate. This system poses a significant environmental and health risk, as heavy rain could trigger effluent overflows. Such failures would likely contaminate local land and vital water sources like **South Creek**, potentially violating strict environmental regulations

Sydney Water has faced growing criticism for consistent delays in delivering critical infrastructure, which has created a significant backlog across growth areas in Western Sydney. Currently, Catherine Field remains disconnected from central sewer mains, with major providers noting that essential water and sewer infrastructure are the primary constraints on the housing pipeline.

Without a confirmed timeline for permanent connectivity, developers are often forced to rely on interim sub-surface irrigation and pump-out systems that are increasingly viewed as inadequate for

the area's density. These temporary solutions pose serious environmental and health risks; for instance, heavy rain can overwhelm these systems, leading to effluent overflows that contaminate local land and vital waterways like South Creek. Such failures not only degrade the local ecosystem but also risk violating strict NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) regulations, highlighting the urgent need for Sydney Water to accelerate its infrastructure rollout to match regional growth.

The current water management plan reveals a significant structural flaw: the proposed storage tank lacks the capacity to sustain the school's operations for even a single full day. This undersizing necessitates a relentless cycle of refills, effectively turning a residential street into a high-frequency industrial loading zone. To maintain the school's daily functions, heavy tankers will be forced to operate during the most sensitive hours—either before 5:00 am to ensure supply for the morning bell or after 9:00 pm to recover from the day's depletion.

The proposal seeks to redirect flood hazards away from the site, yet replacing absorbent soil with extensive hardstand surfaces will generate significant runoff that the planned "pit and pipe" system merely diverts onto properties across Catherine Field Road. While the Overland Flow Assessment labels these impacts as minor and acceptable, it simultaneously acknowledges a localised **increase** in flood levels for a specific neighbouring property, raising serious concerns about the fairness and safety of a development that prioritises its own protection at the direct expense of downstream residents.

Adopting an early closure or evacuation strategy is inherently hazardous, particularly as many parents must travel from out of area to collect their children. Council confirms that Catherine Field Road is subject to inundation during frequent 1-in-5-year flood events; consequently, any attempt to evacuate once rainfall begins risks 'traffic chaos' on a narrow corridor, potentially trapping families and staff in rising waters.

Should evacuation fail, a 'Shelter In Place' protocol effectively isolates over 1,000 people. By ignoring The NSW Department of Planning Shelter-in-Place Guideline and isolating the campus, the school assumes an unacceptable risk to life, failing its fundamental duty of care to protect the school community from foreseeable harm.

We have called the Green Valley campus in 2025 to make enquiries about hiring of their hall and were told that the hall is not for hire for public use. If Catherine Field is the sister school to Green Valley, we are led to believe that the new campus will also not be hiring the hall out.

The Assessment report claims that the estimated development cost is almost \$124 million dollars, yet the Minarah College 2024 Annual report claims the cost will be \$134 million dollar investment. Which is correct?

In conclusion, approving this proposal in its current state forces our community to pay the price for a lack of coordination. We cannot allow private development to bypass orderly planning at the locals expense; without a coordinated approach and the necessary infrastructure already in place, it is the residents who will bear the long-term safety and financial costs of this premature expansion.

