

ILLABO-STOCKINBINGAL CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE LANDHOLDER CONCERNS

JUNE 24 2021-PRESENTED BY DAVID CARR

SPECIFIC CONCERNS

- Property specific and covered by individual negotiations, for example:
 - Interference with conduct of efficient farm
 - Destruction of infrastructure
 - Loss of productive land
 - Noise and residential amenity
 - Additional costs introduced to farm
 - Destruction of farm (totally)

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- DURING CONSTRUCTION
 - Dust issues from earthworks and increased traffic
 - Noise issues from machinery
 - Access to property
 - Biological risks (Livestock and weed)

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- SUBSEQUENT TO CONSTRUCTION
 - Noise issues
 - Environmental Aesthetics
 - Biological Hazards
 - Stock Movements
 - Water Issues and redirection

NOISE ISSUES

- Individual impacts on owners can be dealt with on a case-by-case business
- Impact on sheep population
 - Sheep have sensitive hearing
 - Studies have shown sheep are affected by hearing to an extent of 500 metres
 - Trains are not background. Sharp and sudden noise affect sheep
 - Sheep will avoid being close to rail track
 - Mis-mothering by sheep who may abandon lambs if frightened
 - Significant noise impact during construction
 - Inability to use paddocks during construction

STUDY OF IMPACT OF NOISE ON SHEEP POPULATION TO BE CONDUCTED

- Appointment of an independent consultant to assess sheep population in vicinity of track
- Assessment of loss of productivity of sheep during construction and during operation
- An assessment of economic impact of rail effect on sheep

SHEEP AND SENSES

Vision

Sheep depend heavily on their vision. They have excellent peripheral vision and can see behind themselves without turning their heads. However, they have poor depth perception. They cannot see immediately in front of their noses. Some vertical vision may also have been sacrificed in order to have a wider field of vision. For example, it is doubtful that a sheep would be able to see something in a tree.

Color perception

Contrary to previous thought, sheep and other livestock perceive colors, though their color vision is not as well-developed as it is in humans. Sheep will react with fear to new colors.

Hearing

Sheep have excellent hearing. They can direct their ears in the direction of a sound. Sound arrives at each ear at slightly different times, with a small difference in amplitude. Sheep are frightened by high-pitched and loud noises, such as barking dogs or firecrackers.

ENVIRONMENTAL AESTHETICS

- A quiet and tranquil stretch of country, scarred by rail track
- Tree planting along the track
- Creation of parks with annexed parcels of land partitioned from farms
- “Cleaning and removal” of earthworks after construction
- Fencing to be aesthetic and not merely cost-effective

BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Fencing along track to be effective and maintained to ensure livestock cannot move between properties
- Steps to be taken to ensure seed and plants on trains are not transmitted and broadcast

STOCK MOVEMENTS

- Need to be a clear and efficient method to know train schedules to ensure safe and effective livestock movements

WATER ISSUES

- Assurance that detailed hydrological studies which have been conducted are implemented.
- Prior to final design completion, detailed hydrology impact requires consideration

FOLLOW UP ITEMS

- Matters raised to be followed up and reported to next Consultative Committee Meeting