

INTRODUCTION

Following the previous community newsletter on July 2021, the purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with an update on ProTen's poultry farm development on Rushes Creek Road, Rushes Creek NSW.

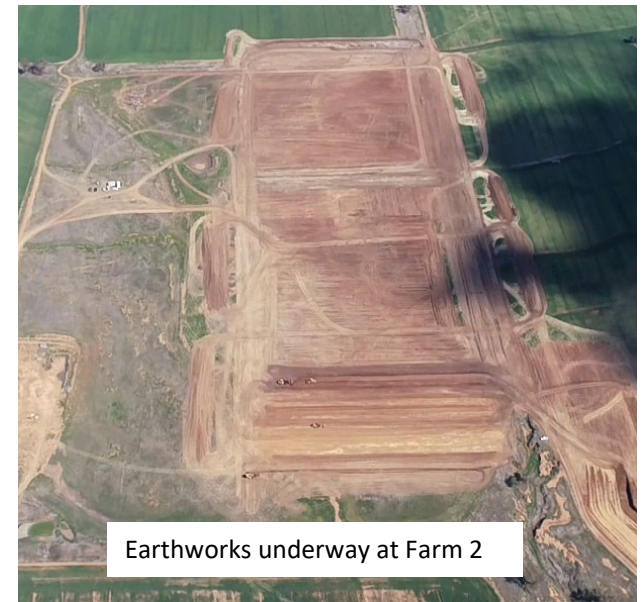
All background documents, including (but not limited to) the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Response to Submissions (RTS), Development Consent SSD 7704 and Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) can be viewed and downloaded from:

- DPIE's Major Projects Portal - <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/10721>
- ProTen's company website - <https://proten.com.au/Sustainability/Environmental-Documents>

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The poultry farm development is planned to be established over two separate stages, as shown on the attached Figure 2. Stage 1 comprises the construction and operation of Farm 2 and associated ancillaries, and Stage 2 comprises the construction and operation of Farms 1, 3 and 4 and associated ancillaries. Construction of Stage 1 commenced in August 2021 and is anticipated to be completed in mid-late 2022. The timeframes for Stage 2 are unknown at this point.

Also underway are the remediation works for the arsenic impacted soils identified in association with an old sheep dip near Farm 2. These works, which are being managed and supervised by specialist contamination consultants and overseen by an independent auditor, involve capping and containment of the arsenic impacted soils in-situ (i.e. in the location the soils were found), with long-term management. Some asbestos containing material, which was recently identified during excavation works for the detention dam at Farm 2, will also be contained under this long-term cap. Required notifications and reporting have been submitted to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Tamworth Regional Council.



CONSTRUCTION HOURS

Under the NSW Government's *Environmental Planning and Assessment (COVID-19 Development-Construction Work Days) Order 2020*, construction works are currently permitted to be undertaken between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm Monday to Sunday (including public holidays) with the following limitations:

- No rock breaking or hammering, sheet piling, pile driving or similar outside of the standard construction hours of 7:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday and 8:00 am to 1:00 pm Saturdays; and
- All feasible and reasonable measures will be taken to minimise noise.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ProTen has committed to a suite of best practice management and mitigation measures to be implemented during Stage 1 construction to avoid/minimise the potential for adverse impacts on the surrounding environment and community in a detailed Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), which has been approved by DPIE. The CEMP includes management and mitigation measures for dust, traffic, noise, soil, surface water, biodiversity, Aboriginal heritage, potentially dangerous goods and waste. It also includes complaints and environmental incident management strategies.

The approved CEMP, including a stand-alone Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), is available on ProTen's website (link provided on page 1).

PROPOSED MODIFICATION

An application will be submitted to DPIE in the coming weeks seeking to modify Stage 1 of the approved Rushes Creek poultry farm development. In summary, the modification comprises the following components:

- (a) Minor amendments to the positioning of ancillaries (for example, site office, water tanks, generators) at Farm 2 following detailed design. No change the position of the proposed farm access road off Rushes Creek Road or the poultry sheds. The attached Figure 3 shows the updated layout for Farm 2.
- (b) Additional emergency standby diesel generator capacity at Farm 2 following detailed design. Four 440 kilovolt amp (kVA) generators are proposed in place of the currently approved three 390 kVA generators. Importantly only two of the 440 kVA generators will operate at any one time.
- (c) Addition of a 45 kVA emergency standby diesel generator and bunded diesel storage near the Namoi River water supply pump.
- (d) Concurrent construction and operation at Farm 2 for up to 6 months. The EIS was prepared based on construction being completed prior to commencing operations. However, due to the current market demand for broiler birds in the Australian market, ProTen will need to commence partial operations at Farm 2 while construction works are still being undertaken to complete Farm 2 for up to 6 months to meet supply requirements. The schedule comprises the following indicative timeframes for Farm 2:
 - Earthworks currently underway and due to be completed early December 2021 (i.e. prior to any operational activities);
 - Construction of sheds 1-8 completed early February 2022 and commence operation mid February 2022;
 - Construction of sheds 9-12 completed early April 2022 and commence operation mid April 2022;
 - Construction of sheds 13-16 completed early June 2022 and commence operation mid June 2022; and
 - Construction of sheds 17-18 completed mid August 2022 and commence operation late August 2022.
- (e) Reliance on one to two of the 440 kVA diesel generators to operate Farm 2 and the 45 kVA generator to operate the water supply pump for up to 6 months while the long-term power supply is established. After this time the generators will revert to their original purpose of standby emergency generators.

While the proposed modification will have implications for air emissions, noise emissions and traffic generation, these implications will be short-term and are predicted to be relatively minor in comparison to what has previously been assessed and approved. An environmental impact assessment, including relevant specialist assessments, is currently underway and will accompany the modification application to DPIE.

Queries, concerns, additional information - if you have any queries/concerns or would like additional information regarding the modification, ProTen contact details are provided at the end of this newsletter.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND COMMUNICATION

ProTen is committed to open communications and fostering good relationships with the surrounding community. The Community Consultation Plan (CCP), which has been approved by DPIE for use throughout the construction and operational phases, is available on ProTen’s website (link provided on page 1).

The key community resources and communications tools for the construction phase are summarised in the below table.

Resource / Tool	Description
Development webpage	Dedicated webpage on ProTen’s website (www.proten.com.au) where key documents and information relevant to the development have been made publicly available. These include the EIS, RTS, development consent, CEMP, CTMP, other management plans/strategies, CCP, community newsletters, etc.
Community information session	Unfortunately, the community meeting intended prior to commencing construction had to be delayed due to the Covid restrictions at the time and ProTen’s management team being largely based in Sydney. It is hoped that a community meeting can be convened in the near future when regional NSW travel restrictions are eased and it is safe to do so.
Community newsletters	Newsletters issued from time-to-time to keep the local community informed and up-to-date with development-related matters and provide contact details for feedback/queries/complaints. The newsletter will be distributed by mail/letterbox drop and will also be uploaded on the development webpage.
Site signage	A clearly visible sign has been installed adjacent to the Stage 1 construction site access off Rushes Creek Road providing relevant site information and contact details.
Emails, phone/video calls, face-to-face meetings	ProTen is happy to engage with residents and recreation facilities as requested via emails, phone/video calls and/or face-to-face meetings in relation to construction works, operations, environmental management, complaints, etc. See ProTen contact details on the following page.
ProTen environmental hotline	ProTen operates a toll-free number where the community can provide feedback and submit queries and/or complaints for follow-up. Hotline number – 1800 776 994.
Complaints management strategy	ProTen has a system to ensure that all complaints will be promptly and effectively received, handled and addressed. Investigative work and remedial action will be reported back to the complainant.

PROTECT CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any queries or concerns regarding Stage 1 of the poultry farm development, please contact (in the first instance) -

ProTen's Regional Operations Manager, Julian Johnson - julianj@proten.com.au / 0406 484 474

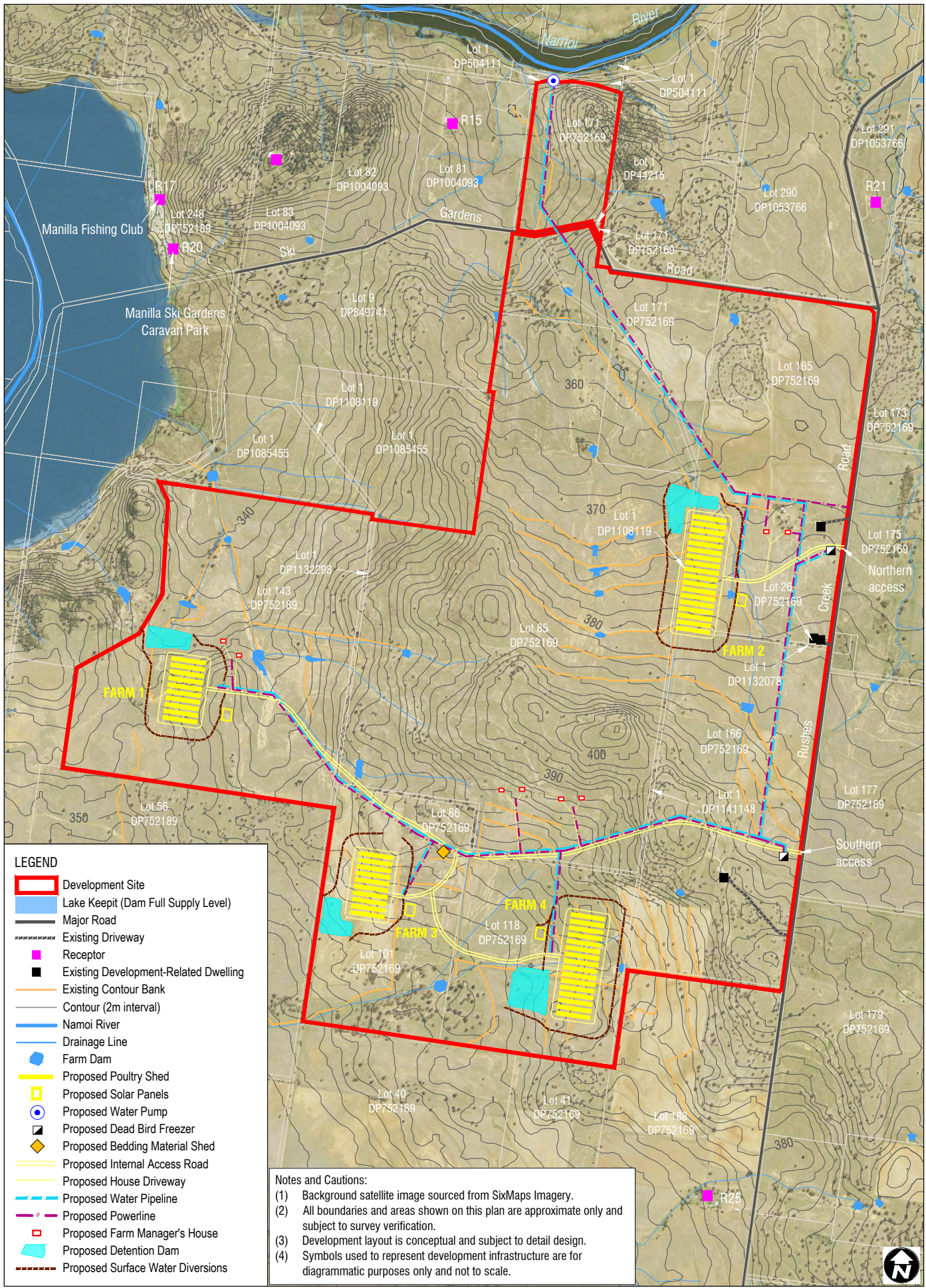
Julian is based in Tamworth and is the nominated "central contact person" for this development. He will be available for emails, phone/video calls and face-to-face meetings (subject to Covid restrictions).

Other relevant contacts:

ProTen's National Construction Manager – Adrian McKinnon – adrianm@proten.com.au / 0427 208971

ProTen environmental hotline (toll-free) – 1800 776 994

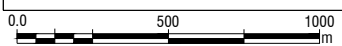
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LEGEND	
	Development Site
	Lake Keenit (Dam Full Supply Level)
	Major Road
	Existing Driveway
	Receptor
	Existing Development-Related Dwelling
	Existing Contour Bank
	Contour (2m interval)
	Namoi River
	Drainage Line
	Farm Dam
	Proposed Poultry Shed
	Proposed Solar Panels
	Proposed Water Pump
	Proposed Dead Bird Freezer
	Proposed Bedding Material Shed
	Proposed Internal Access Road
	Proposed House Driveway
	Proposed Water Pipeline
	Proposed Powerline
	Proposed Farm Manager's House
	Proposed Detention Dam
	Proposed Surface Water Diversions

Notes and Cautions:

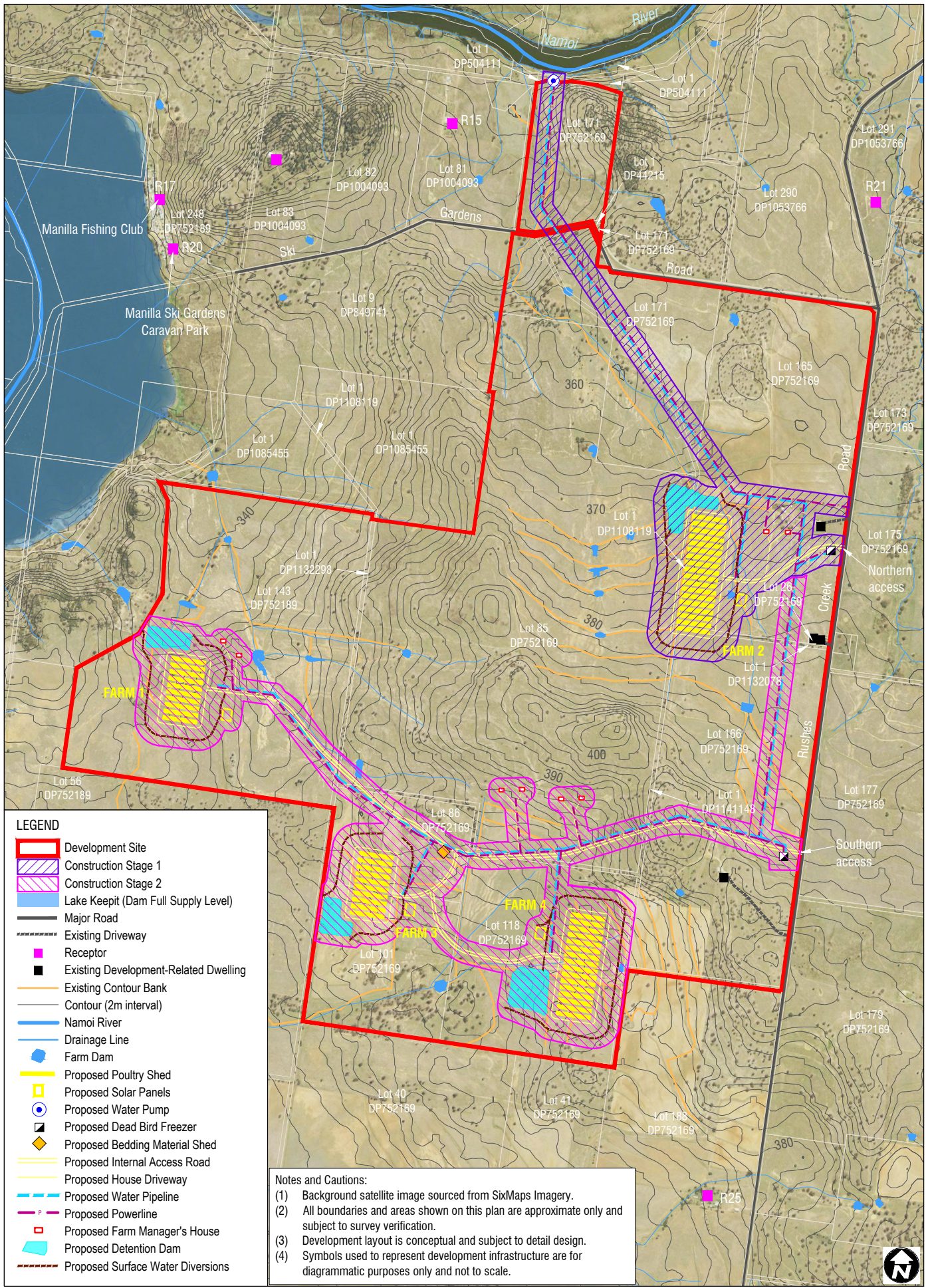
- (1) Background satellite image sourced from SixMaps Imagery.
- (2) All boundaries and areas shown on this plan are approximate only and subject to survey verification.
- (3) Development layout is conceptual and subject to detail design.
- (4) Symbols used to represent development infrastructure are for diagrammatic purposes only and not to scale.



Scale: 1:25000
(GDA94) MGA ZONE 56

03.08.2021
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LEGEND

- Development Site
- Construction Stage 1
- Construction Stage 2
- Lake Keepit (Dam Full Supply Level)
- Major Road
- Existing Driveway
- Receptor
- Existing Development-Related Dwelling
- Existing Contour Bank
- Contour (2m interval)
- Namoi River
- Drainage Line
- Farm Dam
- Proposed Poultry Shed
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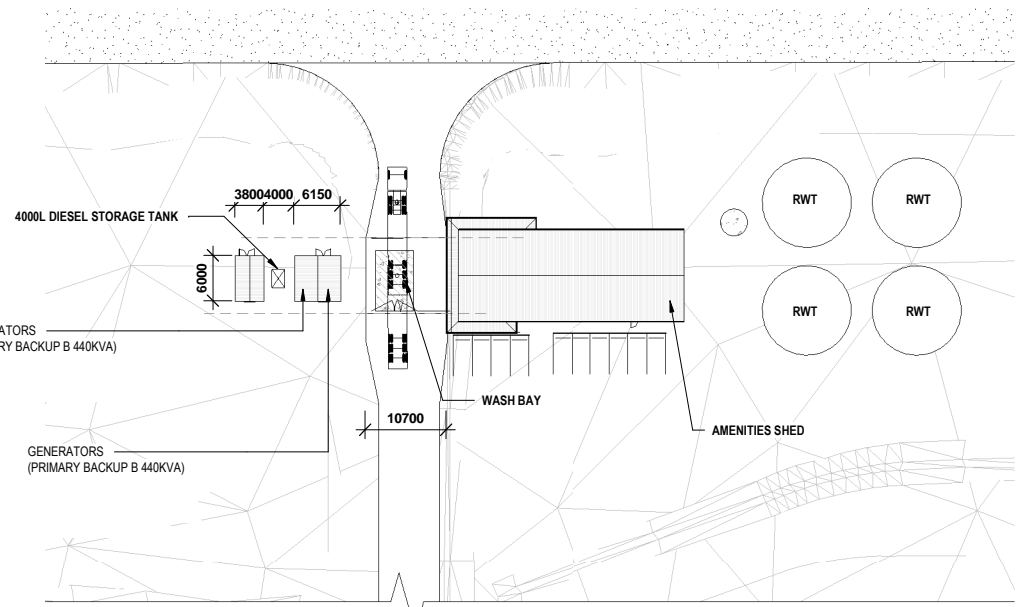
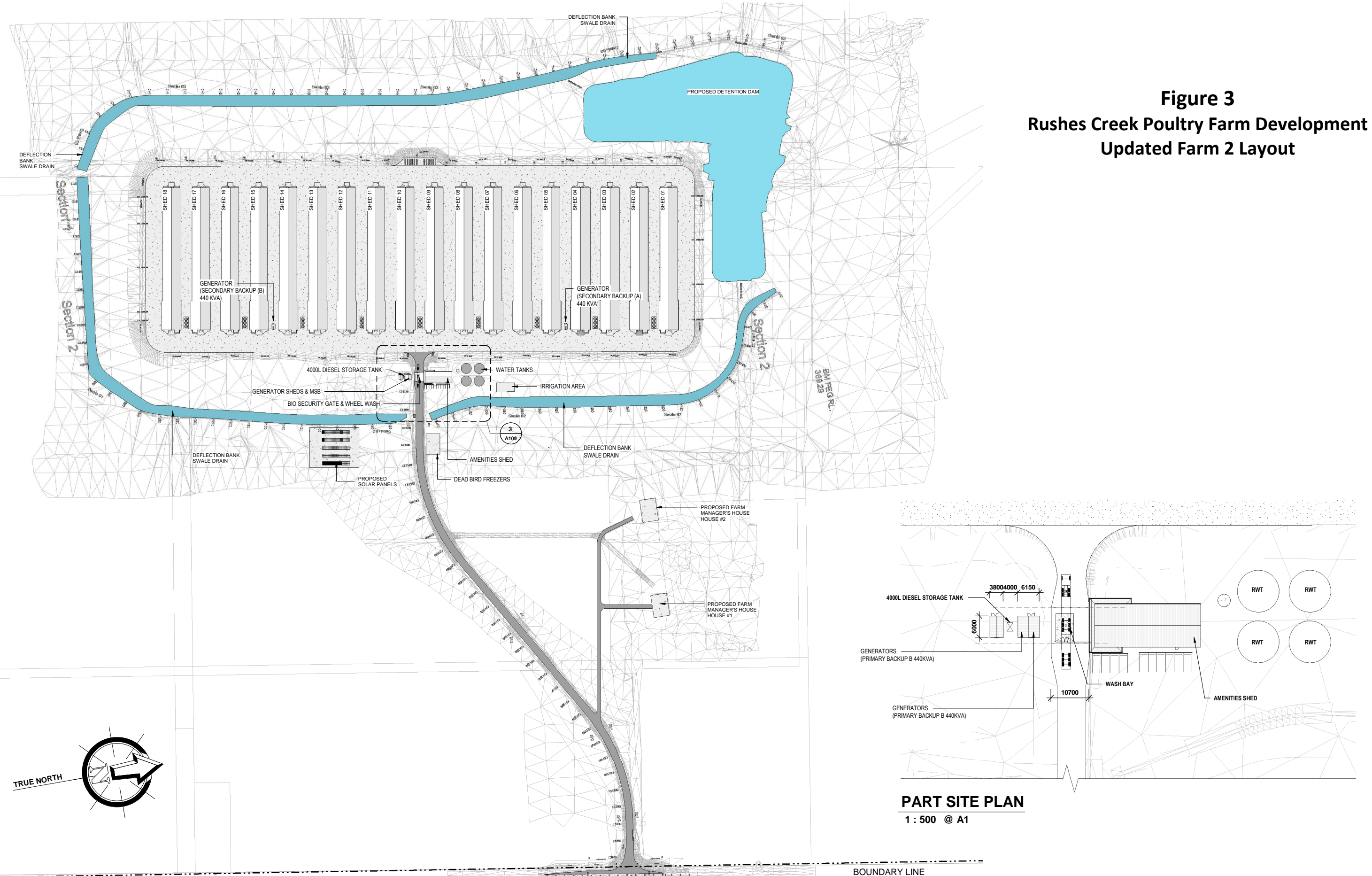
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Figure 3
Rushes Creek Poultry Farm Development
Updated Farm 2 Layout



PROPOSED SITE PLAN
 1 : 2000 @ A1

0 20m 40m 60m 80m 100m 200m
 SCALE 1:2000

DOCUMENTATION IN PROGRESS
 NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES

ISSUED FOR COMMENT
PROTEN / AGRIBIZ
PROPOSED POULTRY SHEDS
RUSHES CREEK RD. RUSHES CREEK NSW 2346



DATE: 14/10/2021 21-166 A100