Clarence Valley Council -Comments on changes proposed via the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) Amendment (Shooting Ranges) 2013.

The changes proposed "ensure that existing lawful shooting ranges are a permitted use in local council plans " and "support the improved integration of shooting ranges with surrounding areas by making ranges a permitted use in adjacent non-urban land". There are three established shooting ranges within the Clarence Valley Council area at the following locations;

1. Grafton Rifle Club Inc. Trenayr.

Operates on Reserve 87119, Lot 267 DP 1139113 and Lot 268 DP 1139113 (Crown Land) which is zoned RU2 and RU1. Rifle ranges are permissible with consent in the RU2 zone where it is located, but not on the RU1 parts of the lot. Consent was issued under DA2012/0370 for extensions to the rifle range shed on lot 267 DP 1139113.





2. Grafton Clay Target Club Inc. Alumy Creek

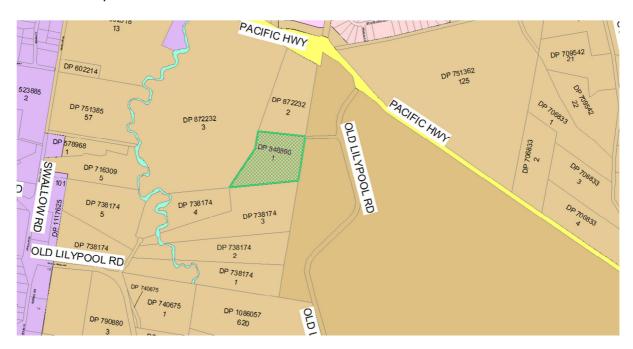
Operates from Lot 10, DP 1091511at Alumy Creek. This lot is zoned RU1 and the rifle range is not permissible in the zone. It would be classified as an existing use.





3. Grafton Pistol Club, 300 Old Lilypool Road, South Grafton

Operates on land zoned RU2 Rural Landscape, where the use is permissible with consent. The land adjoins Forestry land zoned RU3. Consent was granted for a Range approval on 30.9.13 by Clarence Valley Council





IMPACT OF CHANGES ON CVC.

Under CVLEP 2011, a rifle range falls within the definition of a Recreation Facility (outdoor) which is either permitted with consent, or prohibited in the following zones. Where existing rifle ranges are prohibited uses, they are classified as 'existing uses' under Section 106 of the EPA Act 1979.

ZONE	PERMITTED/PROHIBITED	IMPLICATIONS OF SEPP AMENDMENT
RU1 Primary Production	A Recreation Facility (outdoor) is not currently included a permissible use and is therefore currently prohibited under clause 4 of the zone.	The shooting range at Alumy Creek in this zone is currently an 'existing use'. The proposed amendment would make this shooting range permissible in the zone. This would apply similarly if the area of the range at Trenayr extended into RU1 zoned land.
RU2 Rural Landscape	A Recreation Facility (outdoor) is permissible with consent	There is no change to permissibility of the shooting ranges at Trenayr and Old Lily Pool Rd on RU2 zoned land.
RE1 Public Recreation	A Recreation Facility (outdoor) is permissible with consent	No change to zone provisions. No existing rifle ranges in this zone
RE2 Private Recreation	A Recreation Facility (outdoor) is permissible with consent	No change to zone provisions. No existing rifle ranges in this zone
E2 Environmental Protection (CVC has E2 Env Conservation)	A Recreation Facility (outdoor) is not currently included a permissible use and is therefore currently prohibited under clause 4.	The proposed amendment will make existing lawful shooting ranges a permitted use in this zone. However there are no existing rifle ranges in this zone
E3 Environmental management	A Recreation Facility (outdoor) is not currently included a permissible use and is therefore currently prohibited under clause 4.	The proposed amendment will make existing lawful shooting ranges a permitted use in this zone. However there are no existing rifle ranges in this zone

Conclusion

No adverse implications are likely to arise from the proposed amendment to SEPP Infrastructure in relation to the formalising the permissibility of existing shooting ranges. All three existing shooting ranges in the Clarence Valley Council area are located in rural zones and are not in close proximity to residential areas, land zoned for future residential or other purposes which are likely to be of potential conflict.

Deborah Wray Senior Strategic Planner Clarence Valley Council 11 November 2013