

**Submission  
No 134**

## **INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES**

**Organisation:**

**Name:** Mr Mathew Gannon

**Telephone:**

**Date Received:** 23/08/2005

---

**Subject:**

**Summary**

*From:*

Mathew Gannon

15<sup>th</sup> August, 2005

**C/o LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**General Purpose Standing Committee No.4**

To whom it may concern

I am writing concerning the highway upgrade on the St Helena to Tintenbar section, and asking what the reasons are for the expansion of the study area?

I have been living on my family's property, 110 Piccadilly Hill Rd Coopers Shoot, for more than ten years. This is the longest time I have stayed in one place. I have settled here, and have well established my vision for the future. I am twenty-eight years old, and within my time spent in Coopers Shoot, I have witnessed and been apart of amazing things happening on this property. The building of a dam to supply water for agricultural pursuits and the planting of the hundreds of native trees, mostly rare and endangered, that has re-established the dynamic ecology and encouraged native animals, including Platypus, Echidnas, Melamine's (type of Bandicoots), Red Swamp Wallabies, a range of lizards, snakes and many, many bird species. The dam, which has been stocked with native fish, and the head waters for Byron Creek that runs through our property, have an array of Blue claw Marron and a variety of other aquatic species which are endemic to the area. Our family, who

have been members of the local Byron Creek Land care group for over ten years and have worked extremely hard to regenerate this beautiful area, have been funded to not only plant the hundreds of trees over the years, but to improve the Bryon Creek which runs throughout the Northern Rivers. It seems absolutory ridiculous and heartbreaking that such intense work by not only our family, but also our neighbours and friends to improve our environment will be worth nothing. What is the point helping our environment, if it is just going to be wiped out?

My life has gone into this property. My family live here, and I have plans of raising my own family here one day too, so their generation can benefit from the hard work that has gone into creating this beautiful property, full of native trees and animals.

I am totally and utterly against this proposed action. The intense work that our community has put into creating this amazing area, with lush agricultural land and forest, warrants fighting this until our property and surrounding area is safe.

Please upgrade the existing highway, where noise pollution already exists, and stop terrorising the farmers, animals and residence of the north coast with the stress of uncertainty.

Local resident

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Gannon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mathew Gannon