

Submission
No 42

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation:

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Telephone:

Date Received: 18/08/2005

Subject:

Summary

GPSC4 GPSC4 - WOODBURN TO BALLINA PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE

From:
To: <gpscno4@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Date: 16/08/05 12:34:42

Subject: WOODBURN TO BALLINA PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE

To Inquiry Chair Jenny Gardiner, General Purpose Special Committee 4

REFERENCE c) ANY OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Dear Committee Members,

We appreciate this opportunity to submit information to your enquiry

We would like to make comment as we are lead to believe **that Route 2C is now the unofficial preferred option for Woodburn to Ballina Pacific Highway Upgrade** in the area around Wardell, and wish to convey to your Committee the following comments:

In our previous correspondence with Geo Link we conveyed our preference as 1A linking with 2F and 3B. A good compromise would be 2D, as it would probably be the cheapest and most direct route, but some of it would be on Aboriginal land and they appear to have rights above all others.

The information we have from local people who are involved in RTA discussions in the area around Wardell is that 2C is the RTA preferred option.

This will **go through** the **only remaining scrub left in Ballina Shire**. The area is **predominantly wet** with water table at best about 300/400 mm below ground level. The **drainage** required to form the Freeway **will kill off the remaining Wetlands not already wiped out by the road**.

The area west of Wardell is also home to one of the largest Koala populations in the Northern Rivers

Once again we protest against the 2C option, and plead for common sense to prevail. This is a beautiful and peaceful valley encompassing high value wetlands and the Blackwall Scrub, much of which is subject to 7L environmental protection by local Council. There is nothing to compare with it in the whole area.

In contrast to 2C, 2F has no environmental issues, is not on any Aboriginal land and could easily be modified to more closely follow the existing highway between Broadwater and Wardell to appease the concerns of Cane farmers. This route is also shorter than the 2C option.

Given that cost is not the issue in deciding which route to take (2D would win easily) then 2F or a variation of it is the only sensible solution. We commend it to you

Thank you for giving us this chance contribute to your enquiry

Yours Sincerely

Ralph & Sue Keys

