

**Submission
No 27**

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES: COFFS HARBOUR

Organisation:

Name: Ms Margaret Murphy

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Date Received: 8/11/2005

Subject:

Summary

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7 November, 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No 4
Inquiry into Pacific Highway Upgrades
NSW Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

**Submission relating to Pacific Highway Upgrade
Sapphire to Woolgoolga**

I am a resident/business owner in Woolgoolga, and a representative on the Community Focus Group for Option E North. This community is very concerned about the proposed Option E deviation of Woolgoolga. We wish to expose the community consultation by the RTA as a "sham", as well as the limited community representation at the VMW.

The proposed Option E deviation is not a by-pass of Woolgoolga. It is the RTA's second attempt at a deviation around Woolgoolga. This deviation will have major social, environmental and economic effects on the whole Woolgoolga Community - not just those affected by Option E. Just like the first deviation, it severs the community and has a severe negative impact on the local agricultural and tourism industry with flow-on effects to the rest of the local economy.

The Woolgoolga community already suffers from increased truck and traffic noise and diesel particle pollution. Traffic studies conducted in Woolgoolga as part of a Draft Master Plan under SEPP 71 [application MP 20-6-2004] were undertaken before the Burringbar by-pass opening in Tweed. The opening of this freeway *"has resulted in B-doubles using this section of the Pacific Highway since 2003. Since then traffic [trucks especially] has increased significantly and safety concerns along with it. The Bureau of Transport and Resource Economics have released studies indicating the interstate freight transport will double in the next 10 - 15 years, which is likely to be before any upgrade"* by the RTA [DIPNR report]

We need another Yelgyun to Chinderah solution for heavy vehicles and fast through traffic, with a limited upgrade *for safety* to the current road, which should be left for local and tourist traffic.

I enclose a copy of my original submission to the inquiry into the Ewingsdale-Tintenbar and/or Ballina/Woodburn upgrades [the annexures were forwarded with the original submission] for inclusion in this inquiry.

*The Woolgoolga community would welcome and support a **proper** Western By-Pass of the Coffs Coast - not just another deviation offering a short-term solution for 10-15 years.*

Yours faithfully