

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation:

Name: Mr & Mrs Greg & Lyn Plummer

Telephone:

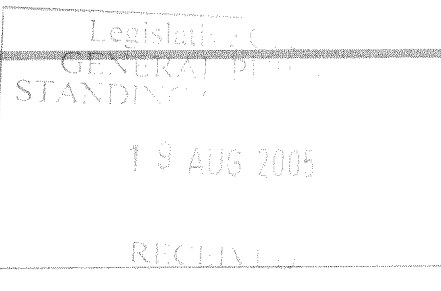
Date Received: 19/08/2005

Subject:

Summary

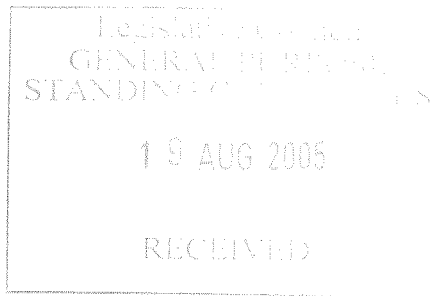
GPSC4 GPSC4 - Submission

From:
To: <gpscno4@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 18/08/05 18:18:44
Subject: Submission



Please find attachment Re.Pacific Highway Tintenbar to Ewingsdale Upgrade

Yours sincerely, Lyn and Greg Plummer



G and L Plummer

17.08.05

Re.Pacific Highway Tintenbar to Ewingsdale Upgrade

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are extremely concerned about the proposed highway upgrade in our area of Newrybar. There a number of serious objections to the upgrade and its impact on Newrybar.

1.The area involved is in the water catchment of Emigrant Creek which supplies water to Ballina and surrounds, through Rous Water Supply. There are large signs in our area, (erected by Rous Water), to the effect that it is an offence to pollute this water supply in any way. People living in this catchment area have forgone the right to any development of their land, so that the water quality is protected.

Emigrant Creek has original rainforest along its banks at Newrybar, and the creek is home to turtles, platypus and numerous species of birds and reptiles.

The pollution caused by carving a road through this catchment area would be enormous. The water quality of Emigrant Creek would be degraded, and the damage to the flora and fauna of the area would be acute.

2. The proposed upgrade at Newrybar impacts severely on the village of Newrybar. This village is a tight knit community which centres around the school, local shop, produce store and community hall. Broken Head Road in particular is extremely closely settled, and very much part of the village. Most residents in the village area and surrounds have been settled in this area for many years, with many families living here for 20-30 years,

sending their children to the local school and participating in all the social activities which are part and parcel of rural village life.

The proposed upgrade would have a very detrimental effect on Newrybar village, and impact severely on its cohesion. The noise levels from increased truck usage would impact on a very large number of residents.

3. The area of Newrybar is prime agricultural land with many families relying on the land for income through macadamia and fruit orchards, and cattle breeding. Many families would be affected detrimentally if the highway upgrade cuts through their established sources of income.

We hope that consideration is given to the points made above.

In our opinion, we think that the proposed upgrade should impact on as few people as possible. The original study area was extremely narrow, and made it impossible for the upgrade to avoid the Emigrant Creek water catchment area.

Now that the study area has been extended to include the flat land through the cane fields, we think the highway would be better suited there.

The area is far less closely settled, and the population is much smaller. There is no established village to disturb, and there is no risk of polluting the valuable water source of Emigrant Creek which provides clean water to such a large number of people.