

Submission  
No 16

## INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES: COFFS HARBOUR

**Organisation:**

**Name:** Mrs & Mr Janette & Wolfgang Schulze

**Telephone:**

**Date Received:** 3/11/2005

---

**Subject:**

**Summary**

AUSTRALIAN WILDFLOWER  
JEWELLERY GALLERY

WH & J C SCHULZE

THE DIRECTOR

31. 10. 05.

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

NO 4

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

MAQUARIE ST

SYDNEY 2000

Dear Madam / Sir,

I am writing to you about the Pacific Highway. If I could avoid using it I would, but to get in and out of Coffs Harbour it is the only route. To go shopping or banking etc I must cross it - usually I walk across and that is when I realize what a dangerous road it is with such a huge volume of very large and small vehicles.

Many visitors to our area have their lives endangered as the Pacific Highway (the NO 1 ROUTE!) goes right through the centre of our city. This route has not been changed or widened since the early settlers came here early last century. It has become more dangerous since the heavy traffic from the New England Highway has been diverted through Coffs Harbour without any improvements to the narrow main street (the Pacific Highway).

Our youngest child is now learning to drive. He is 17 and has put off learning to drive because so many people have been killed in this area. He has grown up knowing the danger as we lived opposite the zoo where the Pacific Highway has claimed many lives. This

stretch of Highway is called "The Mad Mile"  
It is between Bucca Road and Emerald  
Beach (Heights). I will list the accidents I  
have known of just in that stretch of Highway

- ① OUR NEIGHBOUR — <sup>CAR</sup> HIT ON TURNING OUT OF SHARP  
FREM SHARP CLOSE <sup>6 YR OLD</sup> SON PERMANENTLY INJURED CLOSE  
(OUR SON'S FRIEND)
- ② LADY WHO RAN HORSE RIDING SCHOOL  
CAR HIT BY SEMI WHILST COMING OUT OF ZOO.  
SHE SURVIVED AFTER V. SEVERE INJURIES.
- ③ YOUNG MAN KILLED AT OUR LETTER BOX ON  
HIGHWAY (CR SHARP CLOSE) HIS CAR RAN INTO  
A DITCH + HE DROWNED.
- ④ TIKI RD RESIDENT'S FATHER KILLED TURNING  
INTO TIKI RD.
- ⑤ MAN KILLED ON HIGHWAY NEAR TIKI RD  
TURN (HE WAS DECAPITATED — IT MADE ME SICK  
THINKING ABOUT THIS FOR YEARS. NOW I'M  
DISTRESSED THINKING ABOUT IT.)
- ⑥ OUR FRIEND'S SISTER WAS KILLED NEAR EMERALD  
HEIGHTS TURN OFF (Julia) AN AWFUL SHOCK.
- ⑦ <sup>RECENTLY</sup> YOUNG LADY WHO WORKED AT PET PORPOISE POOL  
WAS KILLED ON THIS STRETCH OF ROAD (Tyne)
- ⑧ MANY NEAR MISSES AS I TRIED TO GET IN +  
OUT OF SHARP CLOSE (NOW CLOSED)

These incidents are only what I can remember  
as I write this letter. There would be many more.  
And nearer the Moonee Beach Turnoff I witnessed  
accidents and fatalities — as I drove home.

We moved from Victoria in 1985 to establish  
our Aust. Wildflower Jewellery Gallery. We were told  
at the time that there would be a WESTERN  
BYPASS put in, perhaps up to 10 years  
away. We now have the same road and  
it is 20 years since we came.

We were pushed out of the Heritage Park Estate area by the Marlin Resort Developers (they went Bankrupt). We only ever got the deposit from them and thankfully we moved away from that dreadful stretch of Highway.

We now live at Red Hill which is west of the city. This is where we have established our new gallery and home. Recently we had the stress of a development (THE COASTAL RIDGEWAY) affecting our business and property again. This time it is the R.T.A. The road reserve of this "proposed alternative to the present Pacific Highway" goes through our house and <sup>THE HIGHWAY</sup> through the entire land we own beyond our house. We have been to many of the R.T.A. meetings to try to find out what is happening as we need to know for sure whether or not to move again or how to survive (~~it~~ <sup>OURS</sup> is only a small business but we do add interest to Coffs Harbour as a Tourist Attraction)

We would like to know if there is still a chance for the Coastal Ridgeway to go ahead, as we would like to plan our future.

I hope you will read all of this letter and answer it. It is a letter from my heart as a taxpayer, a happy resident of Coffs Harbour of 20 years, a mother and a business partner, and very concerned driver.

Yours faithfully

Janette Schulze

MRS JANETTE SCHULZE

(+ WOLFGANG SCHULZE  
MY HUSBAND)

*[Handwritten signature]*