

**Submission  
No 185**

## **INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES**

**Organisation:**

**Name:** Mr & Mrs Les & Marcia Einhorn

**Telephone:**

**Date Received:** 22/08/2005

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**Subject:**

**Summary**

**Glenda Baker - Fwd: Re Additonal Submission to the Parliamentary Enquiry, RTA Proposed "upgrade" for Pacific Highway - T**

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**From:** Jenny Gardiner  
**To:** Steven Reynolds  
**Date:** 19/08/05 17:19:49  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re Additonal Submission to the Parliamentary Enquiry, RTA Proposed "upgrade" for Pacific Highway - T

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Additional Submission to the Parliamentary Enquiry, RTA Proposed "upgrade" for Pacific Highway - Tintenbar to Ewingsdale

**C/- The Hon. Jennifer Ann GARDINER, MLC**

Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sirs,

Several years ago my wife and I moved from an inner urban Melbourne residence and lifestyle to Northern Rivers, NSW, and purchased a 5 acre property in Coopers Shoot Road, Coopers Shoot NSW. We specifically sought and purchased a property that was over 3 kilometres from any existing or planned major transport thoroughway or highway.

Currently working in the field of Information Technology, for three years I worked as a Traffic Engineer with Eagle Signals Australia Ltd, based in Victoria, designing and maintaining traffic intersections and control signals. Significantly this included advising the then Road Organisation Safety Traffic Authority and Country Roads Board of Victoria. Duties included advising on major arteries, major traffic flow and related synchronised traffic control.

We are devastated with the RTA inflicting on us the prospect of 17 kilometres of noisy, unsightly, unwanted, unneeded highway through some of this state of NSW's and the nation's most valuable and significant agricultural and rural area. We are aware of many studies on the health dangers from living within 3 kilometres of major highways and are frightfully worried about this significance to the greater local community, our young children and ourselves.

We are most concerned with the amazing level of disregard the RTA has shown to the community for all of the Pacific Highway Upgrade and especially what we have seen ourselves in this stretch. I am highly concerned at the many procedural errors shown by the RTA and the lengths to which the RTA have gone in misdirection and avoidance.

We have local knowledge and experience of some Threatened Flora and Fauna and are concerned the current process does not allow for adequate research and mapping in the greater study area for the planned Highway.

We are concerned the RTA is advertising this as an "Upgrade" when they are apparently realistically considering tunnelling through St Helena, a major section of the commencement water catchment for Byron Creek, which leads to the Richmond Catchment that supplies tens of thousands of people now. When they, the RTA are suggesting building a 17 kilometre stretch of what is actually new highway. When that new highway is right through significant agricultural area, rural population communities and next to major planned urban development. When the planning and route selection of that highway has been in ignorance by the greater community and the local councils representing those communities. Local councils and communities who have much experience and knowledge of the target land. Local Councils and communities that say even the idea of putting a major highway in this target area is preposterous, grossly unsafe and idiotic. That the cost of maintenance will be prohibitive let alone the cost of building. The cost to the communities cannot be expressed in dollar terms alone and is highly significant and of great concern.

And this does not include the current real cost of the blight from the RTA to all people in the study area living

under a cloud and unable to plan their future.

I am very worried about major flaws in the current CLG process, a process:

- initially seeming to attempt to divide the local community
- that attempts to trap local people, some representing local community groups, to select and vouch for a route

\*\* this is simply preposterous for so many reasons \*\*

- that fails to consider and weigh vital planning information
- that fails to consider and weigh vital ecological information

We request you to do what you can to immediately revoke what is called "The Expanded Study Area" of the T2E Pacific Highway Upgrade and effect a better and more coordinated planning process.

We are available and welcome the opportunity to address the Inquiry if given the chance

Most Sincerely,  
Les and Marcia Einhorn