

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation:

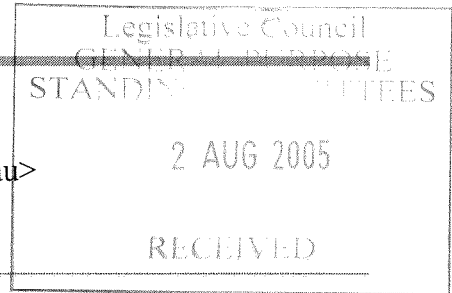
Name: Mr Colin Cook

Telephone:

Date Received: 2/08/2005

Subject:

Summary

GPSC4 GPSC4 - Inquiry**From:****To:** "Pacific Highway Upgrade" <gpscno4@parliament.nsw.gov.au>**Date:** 2/08/2005 12:35 PM**Subject:** Inquiry

Sirs,

There is no doubt in my mind that the mix of interstate and local traffic along the existing highway makes for unacceptable danger and anxiety for the increasing residential population.

That the highway should be improved to four lanes is obvious but the interstate 'heavies' should be elsewhere. Australia should have intercity roads built as in Europe through 'greenfields' not through or just skirting populous centres.

These should be toll roads funded by RTA Bonds paying fixed interest and to which much pension money would be directed. We do not need more of the Government/Private Partnership deals wherein the land is acquired by the taxpayer and donated to the project, private capital is guaranteed a return but losses are sheeted home to the taxpayer. RTA Bonds could be made very attractive by linking their purchase/ownership with discounted licence fees and registration costs. (Some Tasmanian dams were funded in a similar fashion - but foolishly at a very high interest rate, 17%!)

Yours faithfully,
Colin Cook.