

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation: Bangalow Chamber of Commerce

Name: Ms Aileen Cole

Telephone:

Date Received: 27/10/2005

Subject:

Summary

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27/10/05

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Chamber of Commerce

The Inquiry Chair,
Jenny Gardiner
GPSC 4
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attention: Ms Gardiner,

Re: Parliamentary Inquiry into the proposed Tintenbar to Ewingsdale Pacific Highway Upgrade

As a resident/business owner of Bangalow, this community is very concerned about an upgrade of the existing Pacific Highway along its current corridor.

It is recognized and acknowledged by the Government that there has been an increase in heavy vehicle volumes since the opening of the Yelgun to Chinderah project and the opening of the Pacific Highway by NSW to B-double trucks. It is of considerable concern that projected major road freight traffic on the east coast will increase 250% over the next 15 years.

The community in and around Bangalow already suffers from increased truck and traffic noise and diesel particle pollution.

It is difficult to see how an upgrade of the proposed magnitude along the current alignment could be tolerated without major social, environmental and economic effects on the community.

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

Thus, we very much welcome and support any RTA option for a new Pacific Highway route well east, and away from the existing corridor.

Yours sincerely,

SIGNED By AILEEN COLE

Aileen Cole
on behalf of the Bangalow Chamber of Commerce
28 July 2005

Submission to Parliamentary Inquiry on the Pacific Highway

Letter of 28 July 2005. Attached copy

Additional information.

The RTA announced on October 21st 2005 the four potential options for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway from Tintenbar to Ewingsdale. The Chamber recommends that the Government accepts the option that has the least impact on the community as a whole and provides a Highway to Motorway (M) standards.

Requests:

- Highway to be to the highest safety standards with high visibility and minimum number of curves.
- The route selected should be the one with the minimum number of dwellings to be acquired.
- The route selected should not have any grades exceeding 4.5%
- The option selected should have the lowest community noise burden of the routes investigated.
- The tunnel selected at St Helena to be the one that removes the current 6% grade and uses the 4.5% grade.

Bangalow Chamber of Commerce 26th October 2005