

Submission
No 1

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation:

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Subject:

Summary

*To our government leaders, please listen to the voices of the residents who are affected by the tragic upgrade of the Pacific Highway. Many of us are now afraid to drive from one neighbourhood to another because of the B-double traffic. I have been terrorised by these truck drivers racing each other along the dual carriage way at night. They tried to force me to drive over the speed limit by tailgating me, but do not allow me to slow down to find a place to pull off, so that they can continue their race.

Not only have too many people died since B-doubles were allowed to mingle with the residents and tourists on this upgraded regional highway, but now some of the most beautiful and fertile land of NSW is being threatened with further upgrades. We are all aware that these upgrades are not for the residents, but for the commercial activities of B-double freight. We are saddened to realize that our Pacific Highway upgrade never was for the convenience of our safe travel and enjoyment. We wonder why the RTA did not inform the local communities that they planned to put B-double trucks onto the Pacific Highway after the upgrade. The RTA did not receive legal authorization from some councils to allow B-double trucking through the Shire. What deals were made behind the closed doors of the RTA to encourage this blatant misuse of a regional highway? Who benefited from the destruction of our beautiful scenery, fertile farming, tourism, and community welfare?

Please return the interstate truck traffic back to their original highway, the New England Highway. Upgrading the Pacific Highway into dual carriage will not save lives from B-double carnage, as more trucks will appear to intimate the car drivers. If you only consider the economy, when making decisions about truck freight, then please take into consideration that tourism is an economy, farming is an economy, and human lives pay your taxes. Please scale back the improvement of the Pacific Highway to make it safe for normal cars, and put the extra money into the New England truck highway. I am sure those isolated communities would appreciate the return of income from the truck travel. The Eastern seaboard of NSW is too precious to destroy for the purpose of creating faster free ways for trucks. Can anyone in government hear the cry from the residents, or is there no longer compassion for the hearts of humanity?*