

Submission
No 1

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES: COFFS HARBOUR

Organisation: Kempsey Shire Council
Name: Mr Neil Thomson
Telephone: 02 6566 3200
Date Received: 14/10/2005

Subject:

Summary

Kempsey Shire Council has had concerns for a long time regarding the effects that the upgrading of the Pacific Highway will have on the adjacent communities. Council fully supports the general upgrading of the Pacific Highway to dual carriageways and, in particular, eagerly awaits the commencement of the upgrading of Kempsey and Eungai section, which will bypass the urban areas of Kempsey and Frederickton.

However, Council has concerns regarding the impacts that these proposed upgrades will have on communities in the Mid North Coast region. Of particular concern is the impact of interstate heavy transport on the Pacific Highway, the mixing of interstate and local transport and the forecast doubling by 2025 of the NSW freight task.

Council at its meeting on 12 July 2005 resolved:

“That the State Government be requested to hold an inquiry into Pacific Highway upgrades within the area – Port Macquarie to Woolgoolga with similar terms of reference to that of the General Purpose Standing Committee No 4.

That Hastings, Nambucca, Bellingen and Coffs Harbour Councils be invited to support the proposal.

That the members of State Parliament, Messrs Rob Oakeshott, Andrew Stoner and Andrew Fraser be requested to support the proposal.”

It has been noted that General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 has been extended to include the Pacific Highway from Bonville to Woolgoolga including Coffs Harbour.

Council requests that an inquiry be held into the Pacific Highway upgrade within the area Port Macquarie to Nambucca with similar terms of reference to that of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4, or that the Terms of Reference of the inquiry into Pacific Highway upgrades by the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 be widened to include that section of the Pacific Highway between Port Macquarie to Nambucca the townships of Kempsey and Smithtown.