INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation:

Name: Ms Anne Hicks

Telephone:

Date Received: 22/08/2005

Subject:

Summary

GPSC4 GPSC4 - Submission to be issued before 9am monday 22.8.05

From:
To: <gpscno4@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 20/08/05 20:40:22
Subject: Submission to be issued before 9am monday 22.8.05
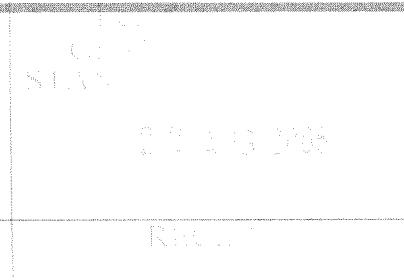
RE:SUBMISSION FOR PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE.
   SECTION FROM EWINGSDALE TO TINTENBAR.

THIS SUBMISSION DEALS WITH SECTION 117 (2), TO PROTECT FARMLAND IN N.S.W.

1. On the 12.1.04 Diane Beamer, MP directed Byron Shire Council, along with other shires in NSW, to protect farmland under section 117 (2) Direction, that was as follows:

OBJECTIVE 1. To ensure that the best agricultural land will be available for current and future generations to grow food and fibre.

This section being achieved, would it not be out of character to have the study area for the proposed Pacific Highway Upgrade in the Byron Shire, right through the middle of this sectioned, highly productive agricultural land?

The deputy mayor of Byron Council said that as far as his understanding of the schedule of the act was concerned the RTA could go ahead with the Highway Upgrade in the sectioned area if there were no other VIABLE OPTIONS. He also said that in 1996 residents of the Byron Shire made a recommendation to the RTA regarding the upgrade of the Pacific Highway that was as follows:

1. Upgrade the existing highway using the current footprint.
2. Establishing alternative heavy vehicle route via the Summerland Way.
3. Upgrading rail networks & other public transport for tourism & employment.

I ALSO PROPOSE THESE OPTIONS AS MY SUBMISSION.

With the current climate of water shortage in this state, the fact that this rightfully sectioned, highly productive land in N.S.W. and the long term prospect of increasing fuel costs, would it not be fair to say that these viable options are worthy of this submision?
 Please accept this late entry and submit before the working hour of 9am monday 22.8.05
Yours sincerely,
Anne Hicks.