

Submission  
No 91

## INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

**Organisation:**

**Name:** Mr & Mrs Tony & Rie Gilding

**Telephone:**

**Date Received:** 19/08/2005

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**Subject:**

**Summary**

**Submission to the General Purpose Standing Committee Inquiry No. 4.**

**Inquiry into the Pacific Highway Upgrades.**

Sunday 14 August 2005

This is an individual submission from Tony and Rie Gilding of

The subject of my submission is the devastating effect the decision to increase the size of the study area has had on our lives and the total disrespect shown to us by ministers and senior public servants.

In November 2004 we purchased with our life savings 2 properties in the subject area with the express purpose of turning it into 5 Eco Tourism cabins. Purchase price was 2.4 million. This is our superannuation as we had planned to be self funded retirees. Between exchange of the property and the area containing our land was newly designated as study area for a Pacific Highway Upgrade.

I am currently entombed in my property. It is not saleable and I cannot afford to develop it until the route is finalized. Even then I can not be confident that the route decided will be the route built.

I wrote to Minister Costa on 12 May (attached) requesting a response. An acknowledgement but no substantive reply was received. Since then I have written and telephone the ministers office on 5 occasions and spoken mainly to [redacted] who has promised a reply. As of the date of writing none is forthcoming.

I then wrote to the State Premier requesting that his office looked into the matter of non reply of my letter of 12 May. On July 1 I received a reply signed by Director General saying that the matter had been referred to Minister Costas office. I then attempted to leave a message for the Director General of the Cabinet office to ring me. I wished to explain to him that I was requesting a response from him not delegation of my matter to the Minister. The receptionist refused to take a message. I insisted and she put me through to [redacted]. He took a message for the DG to ring me back. A few days later an aide [redacted] from the Cabinet office rang me back and assured me that a reply would be forthcoming.

On 11 August after another call to [redacted] at the Cabinet office I finally received a letter telling me that the matter had been referred to the minister for reply.

So after 3 months I am still to receive a response from the Minister or the Cabinet office. None of them are prepared to talk to me.

It is very sad for me to have been so badly affected and yet for my elected representatives and their employees to treat me with such disinterest and disdain.

Democratic principles seem to have been abandoned here.

*Copies of all letters &  
replies can be provided  
on request*

