

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES

Organisation:

Name: Mr & Mrs Gordon & Colleen Lowrey

Date Received: 15/07/2005

Subject:

Summary

Legislative Council
GENERAL PURPOSE
STANDING COMMITTEES

15 JUL 2005

RECEIVED

Hon. Jenny Gardiner,
M. L. C. Chair of General Purpose Standing Committee,
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

RE: Submission concerning the Ballina to Woodburn upgrade of the Pacific Highway.

We are in section 2 of the map area. My Family have been farming for five generations , we have been working this land at Wardell for over sixty years.

- Option 2F is not a suitable route, as this goes through prime Agricultural land
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- 2F The land in this area would have to be filled and is subject to flooding.
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- 2F The flooding issue in this whole area is a major concern as the road would
- interfere with the flow of the flood water.
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- 2F The land through this whole area is prime agricultural flood plain and is very unstable for the construction of a major road.
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- 2F The road would have to be constructed to heights greater than major flood levels, which would be up to at least four metres high.
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- 2F Route is not an option as it divides 100 private farming properties, making daily operation of these properties impossible and would have a devastating affect on the viability of these farms, and the farmers.
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- 2D Route is a much more suitable route if it were to be moved further west , up onto the high sand ridge out of major flood reach.
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- 2D Route would provide a much better natural foundation being on a flood free sand ridge which has an Indurated sand foundation.
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- 2D Route if it was moved further west onto the sand ridge would be far cheaper to construct, and flood free, and would be using unproductive land, leaving the prime agricultural land intact.
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- 2D Route would be crossing the river at Laws point and at this point the road would be on some prime agricultural land, at each side of the river crossing, as this would be a minimal amount of prime agricultural land this would be seen to be the best overall result for the whole community.
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- 2E Route is an option in the Broadwater area going behind Cooks Hill, the road would go onto land which is sand country ,which is still on flood free land.
- 2B Route is not an option as it goes through prime agricultural land and would require a long river crossing.
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- 2A Route option crossing the river at Rileys Hill would be a very good option if it where to join up with 2D Route, on the sand country in the Bagotville area.
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- 2A Route would take the traffic noise and congestion away from the Township of Broadwater.

Prime agricultural land is a precious commodity that cannot be replaced, if farmed properly will provide food crops for the community into the future.
Fertile soil is something that can never be replaced, if carefully managed will last for ever.

Thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Yours Faithfully,

Gordon. S. Lowrey.

Colleen O. Lowrey.