

**Submission  
No 312**

## **INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mr Peter Conigrave

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My submission concerns reserve roads. We purchased a farm a few years ago in Tumberumba. Our dream is for an organic farm that regenerates soil viability as well as natural biodiversity values whilst also being productive.

After purchase we found out that a previously inactive provision relating to this reserve road became active when the land changed hands. This meant the government intended to charge rent for this land.

This first point about this paper road is that it bears very little relationship to roads that are actually in use for thoroughfares between properties. The routes mapped would be unusable for vehicle traffic for the most part. Yet technically we can't use this land for any purpose of our own because of its arbitrary designation. At the same time, we can't claim the actual road areas for private use either. Effectively this amounts to double fragmentation of our property, making it harder to manage.

There is no reason why the road concerned can't be designated as an easement along the route currently in use.

Naturally we were keen to acquire this crown land as soon as possible so as to provide some certainty for fencing, building, cropping and other land allocation. However, we're advised that a three year wait for these deliberations is common. It may well take longer than that, with no guarantee of a favourable outcome.

My submission is that resources should be put into these departments so the assessment process can be conducted in a timely and circumspect manner.