

Andrew Beattie - rta bypass

From: Jennifer Miller <jenmiller65@hotmail.com>
To: <plan_comments@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 14/12/2012 1:24 PM
Subject: rta bypass

John Miller
 117 North Street Berry

Dear Sir,

I write to you regarding access to my property during construction and after completion of the Berry bi-pass, and would like to thank you for the opportunity to do so. Negotiations for some years now, have been laborious, frustrating, time consuming and quiet often heart breaking, but at all time I have tried to maintain a high standard of kindred spirit with the community and co-operation with the R.M.S to find an acceptable route for the bi-pass. Doubtless, you would be aware that land was resumed from us during the early 1990's to one day construct the road. This strip of land was gazetted back in 1962 for this purpose. Like wise you would fully relies that every person living in North street, have over the last fifty years been able to take advantage of cheap real-estate due to the fact that one day a four lane highway would be running along-side North street. When the R.M.S proposed to realign the route around the Northern end of the berry-sporting complex, I couldn't find any argument against it. For years iv used the sporting complex and my children have used it and it would be a shame to lose it from the town, even though I would lose a small portion, all be it extremely valuable piece of high ground out of flood level before the alignment merged back into the original piece of land running along side North street which was resumed years before by R.M.S. then the wise people of North street and other groups of Berry tried to have the high way redirected upon various parts of my property not only greatly impacting my self but also other land holders.

I attended many community forums and I must say that the behavior from both, many of affected landholders and many of the town's people was disgusting. As the most affected landholder I tried to ignore the comments from many of these people and keep a dignified relationship with R.M.S staff.

Eventually the R.M.S succumbed to the wishes of North Street and once again the route was redirected, leaving the original highway footprint as a buffer between the highway and north street this has resulted in us loosing eleven Acres of high flood free land.

Three of my four children wish to pursue dairy farming as their livelihoods with plans of recommissioning the north street property as a dairy where/when one of them could continue with the family tradition which has continued since 1832. At present the farm acts as a support farm to our current dairy.

With the loss of so much high country on a flood prone property, this dream has now been rendered as an unrealistic proposition. As a family and as individuals we have had to come to grips with the terms of this decision and try to make the best out of a pretty awful situation.

To allow my friends in North's street an unlimited view of the escarpment and to keep the noise level of traffic down to a minimum the R.M.S have proposed to cut the highway into the ground however in order to do this town creek would have to be diverted back through the Bowley Family dairy through my property and into my creek. An unwanted drain dumping more unwanted floodwater onto an already flood prone property. Again I have tried to co-operate with R.M.S staff whom I have nothing but respect for. For me allowing this to happen it will not only have the benefits to north street residents but also will flood proof over 150 houses along town creek as it now stands as well as other benefits to the town.

It was during their discussion with the R.M.S staff, I was stunned to learn where my access from my property into Berry is situated.

I must say here and now that I cant help but feel that the good will and co-operation which I have tried to establish and maintain through out this whole sorry saga is now being taken advantage of. I insist on my access into Berry Being where it is now. To make it a viable proposal I would have no problems with the bowleys using this access also.

When I raised my concerns with staff of R.M.S staff who said the idea would eliminate the need for the western end of the access road and a roundabout but the problem with an over pass where we need it would make north street unhappy.

Well I have to tell you im sick of trying to make north street happy, as I said before they are all moved there knowing full well that one day they would be living on the highways doorstep. So at the end of the day I think they have been pretty lucky.

As a family, as individuals, as a farming business and for my wife's personal training business that western end access point will have a devastating effect. I respectfully ask for your co-operation and apportion some fairness back into the decision process, not just towards those who winged the most.

Looking forward to your full cooperation in the future

Kind regards
John Miller.