



COPY

Mr Paul Forward
Chief Executive
Roads and Traffic Authority
PO Box K198
HAYMARKET NSW 1238

DGC05/1960
DGC05/1961
DGC05/1962

Dear Mr Forward

Subject: Bulahdelah Bypass Pacific Highway Upgrade Environmental Assessment Requirements

I refer to your correspondence dated 19 September 2005 and the application under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* (EP&A Act).

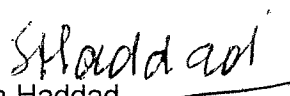
The Roads and Traffic Authority has decided that the project requires an environmental impact statement to be obtained within the meaning of Division 4, Part 5 of the EP&A Act and, by order of the Minister, is now subject to Part 3A. The Minister is the relevant approval authority.

Director-General's requirements (DGRs) for an Environmental Impact Statement (now an 'Environmental Assessment' under Part 3A) were previously issued. Pursuant to Clause 8J of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Infrastructure and Other Planning Reform) Regulation 2005, the Director-General adopts the previously issued DGRs as environmental assessment requirements, the EIS and the public exhibition period for the EIS for the purposes of Part 3A for the Bulahdelah Bypass. This is provided that the proposal remains essentially the same as at the time the DGRs were issued and will avoid unnecessary duplication.

Please note that Part 3A enables the Director General to require a Statement of Commitments (for environmental management and mitigation measures) to be included in the Environmental Assessment. It is agreed that the RTA should prepare Submissions Reports for each of the projects, including a Statement of Commitments and a Preferred Project Report as necessary.

Please contact Lisa Mitchell (9228 6354) or Mark Hather (9228 6346) if you would like to discuss this matter.

Yours sincerely


Sam Haddad
Deputy Director-General

Sustainable Development Assessment and Approvals 1/10/2005