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Major Projects Northern
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Felicity Greenway
Director Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
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Attention: Ms. Kylie Seretis

**HIGHWAY NO 10 – PACIFIC HIGHWAY. BALLINA AND BYRON SHIRE COUNCILS.
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE
TINTENBAR TO EWINGSDALE, 13.63KM – 29.95KM NORTH OF BALLINA.
REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION TO MINISTERS CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL – TUNNEL
CONTROL CENTRE AND SCHEDULE 2 DEFINITION OF ST HELENA TUNNEL WORKS**

Dear Kylie

I refer to the Planning Approval for the Pacific Highway Upgrade, Tintenbar to Ewingsdale of 29 January 2010 from the Minister for Planning received by the then Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA).

I also refer to our previous meeting and subsequent correspondence regarding the preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the proposed Tunnel Control Centre (TCC) associated with, and essential to, the approved St Helena Tunnel.

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) has completed the required Environmental Assessment and now seeks a formal modification to the original Approval (07_0051) for the project to allow the construction and operation of the TCC which is essential to the operation of the St Helena Tunnel.

The proposed modification is presented in detail for your review and approval in the enclosed document: "*Pacific Highway Upgrade – Tintenbar to Ewingsdale Modification to Approval St Helena Tunnel Control Centre, April 2013*".

Roads & Maritime Services

As you are aware from our previous discussions and correspondence, RMS asked that the TCC component of the previously submitted (and now approved) modification request for a modification to the approved blasting work hours as well as the blast criteria, for blasting works associated with the St Helena Tunnel between project chainages 27800 and 28500, be held pending the submission and approval of this request. Accordingly RMS now also seeks the approval for the modification to the approved blasting work hours as well as the blast criteria, for blasting works associated with the St Helena Tunnel between project chainages 27800 and 28500 as originally submitted be extended or further modified to include the TCC so that benefits for all can be fully realised.

RMS has undertaken extensive consultation with both the wider community in the vicinity of the T2E Project and also more targeted consultation with nearby residents regarding construction of the St Helena tunnel and the TCC. Information regarding the TCC has been provided to the community on a number of occasions at the monthly community information sessions (CISs), with the presentations and minutes from each meeting also provided on the Project website. Specifically, works for, or associated with (such as landscaping and urban design), the construction and operation of the St Helena tunnel and the TCC were covered at CIS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 11. In addition a community update on the intended construction of the TCC has been uploaded to the T2E Project website.

In terms of targeted consultation, one on one meetings were held with all affected residents within a 500 metre radius of the St Helena tunnel in April / May 2012. Representatives from BPL and RMS met with residents at each property to provide detailed information about the tunnel construction. The meetings enabled the project team to obtain an understanding of any potential issues or concerns. Further consultation was undertaken by way of a street meeting on 21 May 2012 which brought together all residents likely to be affected by the activities associated with the construction of the St Helena tunnel and TCC. No issues have been raised by the community specifically about the TCC.

Agency responses to the proposed modification have also been received. Comments were received from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Rous Water, Byron Shire Council and Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries). These agencies did not raise any concerns with the proposed TCC. Please refer to the enclosed document for further details of the consultation undertaken as part of this modification request.

Construction of the St Helena tunnel and the associated TCC is on the critical path for the project, and subject to your satisfactory review of the proposed modifications, it would be appreciated if you could arrange for the necessary approval documentation to be issued as soon as possible so that the benefits of the proposed modification can delivered for all parties, as well as the milestones set by the NSW State and Federal governments can be delivered as soon as possible. Specifically RMS seeks that the definition of the St Helena tunnel works contained in Schedule 2 is updated as follows (edits in strikethrough/italics): -

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| St Helena Hill tunnel works | Works comprising the excavation of the St Helena Hill tunnel, including the tunnel portals and twin tunnels, between chainage 27800 and 28500, <i>including</i> works associated with the establishment of a tunnel control centre. |
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Should you require any further information regarding this or any other project matter, please contact RMS' Senior Project Manager, Strategic Projects Mr Peter Borrelli on 0407 254 363 in the first instance.

Yours faithfully



Robert (Bob) Higgins
General Manager, Pacific Highway