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Submission to the Northern Coal Services Modification 5 (SSD-5145-Mod-5)

On behalf of Five Bays Sustainable Neighbourhood Group, I object to this modification in its current form. My concerns relate to the "Beneficial use of a waste product as an engineering fill material."

Specifically, I object to the use of Rhondda and Wakefield Roads (LMCC roads) in Option 1, as outlined in section 7.1.1.2 Route Selection, page 44.

Reasons for objection:

1. Inefficient route: This option is circuitous, covering approximately 8.6km and requiring a right-hand turn onto Palmers Road.
2. Safety concerns: The intersection of Wakefield Road and Palmers/Cessnock Road poses safety risks, especially given its proximity to M1 exit points.
3. Population growth: Teralba's growing population, in line with State Government Planning, relies on this route to access the M1.
4. Conflicting developments:
 - a. The Black Rock Motor Resort, adjacent to the private haul road, will increase tourist traffic on Wakefield and Rhondda Roads [1].
 - b. Concrush's modification may further impact Wakefield Road traffic [2].
5. **Better alternatives:**
 - a. Option 2 is shorter and safer, using approximately 6.3km of public road.
 - b. An unexplored route utilising the private haul road network could be even more efficient [3]:
 - i. Exit private haul road onto Awaba Road.
 - ii. Turn left onto Cessnock Road, continuing to Palmers Road and M1 interchange.
 - iii. This route uses only 4.8km of public road.
 - iv. Awaba/Cessnock/Palmers Road is a gazetted State Road.

In conclusion, I urge consideration of these alternative routes to address safety concerns and minimise disruption to local traffic.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Howells - Secretary & Treasurer

Five Bays Sustainable Neighbourhood Group

Citations:

[1]

<https://www.lakemac.com.au/News-articles/Black-Rock-project-puts-city-in-pole-position-for-jobs-tourism>

[2]

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/modification-1-development-layout-and-annual-limits>

[3]

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/system/files/media/documents/2023/classified-roads-schedule.pdf>