

In our view to try to save as much fertile land as possible we have requested that if the line of the motorway was to run exactly on the existing Illawarra Highway using the two lanes already there as two lanes heading south and elevated out of the floodplain then adding two adjoining lanes (with just a barrier dividing the two carriageways-not a vast medium strip) to head north and by placing the on and off ramps further south (further away from the east/west runway of Albion Park Airport) and making use of the poorer ground for the motorway. It is our understanding that the gas pipeline has a bearing on the roadway alignment. Consider that the Illawarra Highway could cease at the Croome Lane entrance giving a back access to the house opposite Meadow View and a back entrance to the Gas Pipeline substation via Croome Lane-saving further land.

The RMS proposal to take even more land parallel to the motorway to be fenced off and unusable for grazing seems to us so unnecessary. Why can't the gas, water and phone stay in their present location? Further additives which have left us gobsmacked is the introduction of a cycleway on the ground level running along the new motorway and planted trees! RMS promised that the fenced area could be accessed by Tates cattle for grazing. These designers have no idea that the prime grazing area can be used by cattle-to have cyclists meandering along a pathway setting off grazing cattle into a stampede on manure strewn pathways with unnecessary trees taking valuable grazing land is not on!

RMS is unable to give the Tates'a flood free access into their property known as Meadow View. Suggested entry by RMS to access Meadow View via Dunsters' Reserve is NOT flood free and Council lock the gate at dusk and open each morning.

Entry to Marks Villa on the opposite side of the Illawarra Highway from Meadow View is now able to be accessed (with a permit) to graze cattle with signage noting movement of cattle over the carriageway of the Illawarra Highway. Tractor movements, hay/silage making, silage removable on hay trailers can take place by access to/from Meadow View over the carriageway to/from Marks Villa. Access proposed by RMS under the Frazers Creek bridge for movement of cattle and machinery back and forth to and from Meadow View and Marks Villa will NOT be feasible as it will be inundated with floodwater in times of rain. Property opposite Meadow View is also leased for cattle grazing and requires access. The Tates have requested RMS to allocate an underpass more south of Frazers Creek for access to/from Meadow View and Marks Villa.

RMS is proposing the demolition of the Meadow View dairy, dairy yards, dairy sheds, concrete feed pads, associated buildings/structures and the abolition of the adjoining family home of Craig and Karen Tate's family. This current RMS EIS does NOT mention the removal of the Meadow View home. The current home and dairy are located closely together to enable easy access from home to dairy and keeping the herd in view.

The impact of the demolition of the modern dairy has caused the Tate's to examine how they will overcome this extreme interruption to their business and where they can sight a new dairy given that the terrain is mostly flood prone and the only high ground is being taken by the RMS for the new motorway. This higher ground near the Nursery and subject to being taken by RMS is currently used to facilitate the herd during times of extreme rain where the cattle stand and feed on the concrete feedpad until the floodwaters go down. This area is in close proximity to the dairy so milking is not interrupted in wet times and tanker access to pick up the milk can take place.

Walking long distances from the dairy also impacts on the herd causing loss of milk production. All these factors are to be considered.

Coming online in the near future the Calderwood Valley housing estate with the buildup of embankments on the Macquarie Rivulet in the Tullimbar area will also create flooding problems on this waterway as it flows downstream towards the lake increasing the flooding further on both The Meadows farm and Meadow View farm.

Signed:

Rex Norman Tate

Marian June Tate

*Rex Norman Tate*

*Marian June Tate*