

Royal Australian Historical Society

133 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000 Tel 02 9247 8001 | Fax 02 9247 7854 | www.rahs.org.au | history@rahs.org.au

17 November 2012

Mr Andrew Beattie Acting Manager Infrastructure Projects Department of Planning and Infrastructure PO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir,

Re: MP10_0240 Foxground and Berry Bypass

I write on behalf of the Royal Australian Historical Society and our state-wide membership. Including members of our 359 affiliated societies we represent over 30,000 people around New South Wales. The members of these societies and our individual members work diligently to document the history and the built heritage of their communities.

The Environmental Assessment for this proposal indicates that it produces an unnecessary impact on a large number of heritage items. The general aim of providing by-passes to thriving rural towns such as Berry is to enhance their attraction to visitors by eliminating through traffic, and this has been successfully achieved in several towns by-passed by the Hume Highway in the Southern Highlands.

We are concerned, however, that the severe impact on heritage items in this case may vitiate any benefit anticipated by the by-pass. Instead of improving Berry this proposal could cause long-term damage to the economic benefits generated by tourism and regional visitation.

The Royal Australian Historical Society therefore lodges its objection to the current proposal.

Yours sincerely

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Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker President