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[REDACTED]
Foxground NSW 2534

4 November 2008

Dear [REDACTED]

Gerringong to Bomaderry Princes Highway upgrade

Thank you for attending the community information session held at Berry Agricultural Pavilion on Saturday 25 October and spending the time discussing various issues with Ron de Rooy and myself.

In May this year, we held a three day workshop to help determine the preferred option for the upgrade. This included results of our previous two years of field and technical studies. Whilst the workshop identified that the Green route performs better than the other routes in relation to the project objectives, the workshop was unable to conclude that this should form part of the preferred route. This was mainly due to the significant additional cost of the Green route. The workshop recommended that we further examine the cost differential between the Green route and the next best performing (Pink) route. Please find attached the report which documents the workshop's proceedings.

Our extensive field and technical studies are documented in the Route Options Development Report and its appendices. I believe you have seen this report. Developing any type of design involves an iterative process. This process involves developing an appropriate level of knowledge to allow decisions to be made to move on to the next phase of refinement. In relation to your specific interest in flora and fauna, our studies were based on industry wide best practise and appropriate level of investment. The results for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna are documented in Appendices G and H of the above report respectively. These are also attached for your information.

To further enhance our understanding of the flora and fauna in the immediate vicinity of the Pink and Green routes, we are currently conducting a spring survey. This is also following industry wide best practise. Together with the results of other further studies we plan to make a decision between Pink and Green in the coming months with a formal announcement being made in the first half of next year. These further studies include:

- Geotechnical investigations;
- Studies of local road and property accesses;
- Visual impact; and
- Impact to cultural heritage (Aboriginal and European).

I trust the substantial detail documented in the Route Options Development Report and the reports attached demonstrate the comprehensiveness of our research and studies.


Once a decision is made, the preferred option will be developed into a concept design which will be the subject of an environmental assessment. Community display and consultation will continue through each phase of the project.

On Saturday you also made some suggestions related to the type of landscaping which should be incorporated in the final design. Your suggestions are valued and I will ensure that they are considered as the design progresses. This level of detail will be considered in subsequent phases of the project and we would welcome any further feedback / suggestions you may wish to make.

I hope that this allays your concerns. The RTA is committed to ongoing community consultation and feedback like yours is most welcome.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further clarification.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Merrett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Merrett
Associate Director - Transport
Gerringong to Bomaderry Princes Highway upgrade – Project Manager
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cc Ron de Rooy

encl: Route Options Value Management Workshop Report
RODR Appendix G Biological Report - Flora & Fauna
RODR Appendix H Biological Report - Aquatic Ecology & Water Quality

cc: Ron de Rooy