



OUT19/14333

Mr Michael Young  
Planning and Assessment Group  
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Mr Young

**Coffs Harbour Bypass (SSI-7666) (Coffs Harbour City)**

I refer to the above matter that was distributed to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) for comment on 6 September 2019.

DPI has reviewed the proposal and has the following comments and advice.

DPI supports the mitigation and management measures for potential agricultural impacts identified in Table 14 of the Agricultural Assessment, (Appendix K of the EIS report). These measures should be reflected within the consent conditions for the proposal and further strengthened with the following:

- Where 'replacement' measures are not feasible or do not adequately provide at a minimum 'like for like' replacement, negotiations with affected landowners should identify and implement an acceptable compensatory resolution between the two parties. This includes any impacts to farm dams from a drawdown in groundwater levels.
- The Air Quality Management Plan should include 'make good' provisions should it be identified that crops are being impacted by dust. Blueberry crops in particular are highly susceptible to dust impacts and a loss of production could result.

DPI has significant concerns in relation to the spread of Panama Disease within the project area. The further development of a Panama Management Control Plan is noted and DPI seeks continued involvement. RMS staff and contractors should undertake best biosecurity practice as detailed in protocols developed in consultation with DPI.

The Sediment and Erosion Management Plan should consider potential impacts to agricultural properties and the movement of contaminated soil, for example Panama disease- affected soil.

Consultation with OzGroup is required to consider how the project will impact existing operations, development approval consent conditions and any potential expansion to their packing facility.

For more information on this advice please contact Selina Stillman on [selina.stillman@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:selina.stillman@dpi.nsw.gov.au) or 0412 424 397.

DPI notes that the EIS has addressed most issues of concern. In Chapter 6 of Volume 1A the statement states that the project may seek to utilise local waterways for construction water. The local waterways on the alignment do not usually have the volume required for construction except during high flow events. Key fish habitat and aquatic ecosystems can be impacted by over-abstraction of water from creeks. Accordingly, DPI does not support the abstraction of water from waterways within the project boundary for the purpose of facilitating construction activities.

For more information on this advice please contact James Sakker on [james.sakker@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:james.sakker@dpi.nsw.gov.au) or 0419 185 378.

Yours sincerely



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