

14-2-2013

Matthew and Pam Moloney

3358 Pacific Highway

Tyndale NSW 2460

[REDACTED]

Attention:

Department of Planning and Infrastructure

Major Projects Assessment.

(Woolgoolga to Ballina Highway upgrade,SSI-4963)

In considering the impact of the current proposal for Lot's 16 and 113 a number of concerns need to be addressed.

Drainage is a major concern for us as this can have a severe impact on the viability of our farming venture. The mitigation drainage system currently in place was developed in the 1960's to enable the production of sugar cane and other agriculture, draining areas that would have otherwise remained wet. It is essential that these systems be replaced with something that is equivalent to what is currently in place. Prior to this the local drainage system which includes a levee bank system for the Shark Creek Basin was built in the late 1940's early 1950's, this system this system provides protection from small flood events and local flash flooding.

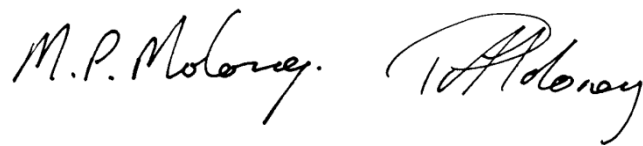
A key component of this system is the levee wall from Shark Creek at Lot 74 which snakes across ending on the southern boundary of Lot 16. This levee wall was constructed in the early 1950's to prevent the flooding of areas to the north of it as a result of heavy rain. It also allows the final run off water from major flooding events to get away faster and thus is essential to maintain the viability of farming in this area. The area to the south of this levee wall is drained into Shark Creek Through a drain running along the southern side of this levee structure. this needs to be incorporated into the highway design as it is essential that the integrity of this levee/drainage system be maintained as failure to do so will have a severe impact on agriculture lands in the area. Plans for the proposed highway show a culvert structure that allows water flow from south to north through this levee wall into Lot 16. Any proposed culvert/drainage used to drain the south side of this levee will need to be constructed to allow the release of water to the southern side of this levee system to maintain the integrity of that system functioning as it is currently and has been for the last seventy years.

Lot 113 to the north of this levee structure has an area which is also levee banked and pumped directly into flood mitigation drain No 1. Plans for the proposed highway show several structures that allow water flow from east to west in Lot 113. My concern is that these structures will result in high velocity flows of water which will erode the necessary levee bank and as a result the farming

land it protects. I propose that these structures be removed and water be allowed to flow along the eastern side of the proposed highway north to Tyndale No 1 drain. This is what currently occurs around the existing levee banks around my property, Lot 113.

On the western side of the proposed highway it will be necessary for me to reconstruct these levees to protect the remains of Lot 113. It will then be necessary to allow for water to flow between these structures and the proposed highway going north to Tyndale No 1 drain.

Yours sincerely

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature, on the left, is 'M.P. Moloney' written in a cursive style. The second signature, on the right, is 'P. Moloney' also in a cursive style, with a large, stylized initial 'P'.

Matthew and Pam Moloney