



18 February 2013

**WOOLGOOLGA TO BALLINA PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE  
APPLICATION NO: SSI-4963**

Major Projects Assessment  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

**Attention: Director Infrastructure Projects**

We object to the project for the following reasons.

Our residence and farm is located just to the east of the proposed highway, but we also share farm a neighbouring property (121 Shark Creek Road) which the highway passes through.

- The highway will act as a levee wall increasing the heights of flood and slow the discharge after a flood. This will cause greater loss of crops of sugar cane and soy beans causing greater financial hardship.
- Another concern is at the share farming site; the bridge span is not wide enough and the bottleneck will cause soil erosion on our cane land when the flood is subsiding.
- The proposed highway is much closer to us than the existing highway with the noise factor to consider. This will also drive down the market value of our property.
- The proposed highway is to be built to clear the 1 in 20 year flood levels. Recent history says this highway would have been under water 4 times in the last 5 years.

**General Reasons:**

- It is the most expensive of all options.
- The Highway is being built on prime agricultural land when lower quality, higher land is available to the east resulting in a much shorter and less expensive option.
- The 1974 flood, a record flood for the Shark Creek area, does not appear to have been taken into consideration in any of the models that have been considered. Why not flood proof the highway now by utilising higher ground that is available in other options.
- The native flora and fauna in the Shark Creek area will be adversely affected.

CONCLUSION:

Building a highway on low flood prone land does not make sense when better options are available.

Yours Sincerely

