

WOODBURN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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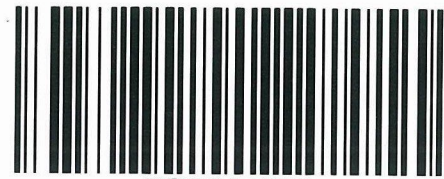
Treasurer
Pam Bellingham
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WOODBURN NSW ON THE
RICHMOND RIVER AND THE
PACIFIC HIGHWAY
ABN: 30 922 534 356

16th February 2012

The Manager
Major Projects Assessment
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001



PCU041753

Re: Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade SS1-4963

Dear Sir,

Whilst the Woodburn Chamber of Commerce whole-heartedly supports the proposed upgrade to the above section of the Pacific Highway, we would like to make the following comments with regard to the 'Hydrology and flooding' section of the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposal.

1. Whilst it is obvious that the proposed works will cause changes in the configuration of flood events in the area, it is hoped that appropriate measures will be taken to avoid increases in the 'normal' level of any flood event, not just 1-in-20 and 1-in-100 year events.
2. Even more important than the flood height is the duration of the flooding, particularly from the backwater that results from the overflowing of Bungawalbyn Creek. This affects not only properties in Woodburn, but in the Coraki, Ellangowan, Whiporie and New Italy areas also, where the length of time that 'the last four inches' of water remains on the land can be devastating for agricultural properties.
3. It is noted from the EIS that as the proposed works cross the Evans Head bore field there could be an adverse effect on the quality of drinking water supplied from that area. We understand that this issue is under discussion with the local water authority (Rous Water), and sincerely hope that effective mitigation measures will be taken.
4. Similarly, as much of the proposed work is in areas containing acid sulphate soils, it is hoped that adequate measures will be taken to prevent contamination of waterways and wetlands.

Department of Planning
Receiver
20 FEB 2013
Scanning Room

Sincerely

Pam Bellingham
Pam Bellingham
Treasurer

also sent by email 17/2/13