

Mr Peter VERE-ROBERTS
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Friday, 8 February 2013
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Major Projects Assessment
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

RE: WOOLGOOLGA TO BALLINA PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE, SSI-4963

We are providing a proposal regarding the above upgrade.

Yesterday we were visited by Transport Roads and Maritime Services staff who advised that the property next to us, 30 Hillside Lane Wardell has been purchased by Transport Roads and Maritime Services.

Your staff advised that there is a proposal whereby the site would be utilised for an indefinite period of time during the highway upgrade and construction of the Wardell Road Overpass as a:

1. Quarry site and/or
2. Service site

Our property, 10 Hillside Lane Wardell, does not have town water; nor do we have access to town water. We depend upon collection of rain water from our roof for all of our water needs. Dust from construction and pollution from site machinery will be in the air during construction. Particularly if the proposed quarry &/or service site are situated adjacent to our property this will impact the quality of our drinking water.

After construction is completed the volume of vehicles passing our property will be greatly increased. Air pollution particularly diesel from the passing traffic on the freeway and the newly elevated Wardell road will provide an ongoing negative impact upon the quality of our drinking water.

If the proposal for 30 Hillside Lane is accepted and the site used as a quarry/service site, your staff advised the hill which is to the south of our property will be dug away and used as 'fill' during construction. The removal of that southerly hill will render us vulnerable to strong southerly winds. It will expose us to traffic from the south increasing the pollution in our drinking water.

With the removal of the southerly hill any existing sound barrier we have to the south will be gone. The freeway will increase the amount and volume of noise we experience daily not just as we expected from the east as per proposed route we find we could be open to the freeway from the south.

Not only does the potential exist to be affected by the freeway from the south, we will have the freeway pass to the east of our property which is the front of our home. My partner spoke with your staff yesterday about the rolling noise we will experience from the east. Your staff advised that any 'unusable material' could be utilised to provide some obstruction to the rolling noise that will affect our property by the formation of a mound.

The construction of a mound to the east of our property will assist in deflecting some traffic noise; however it will not change the impact upon our daily lives generated by the freeway and provides no protection from air-born pollution entering our water supply.

The staff who visited yesterday experienced the level of noise that we currently experience, almost nothing. During construction the noise level will be greatly increased and as advised your plan is to ensure that work which causes the most noise will occur during daytime hours; this will have negative impact upon our household.

My partner is a member of 'essential services' and as such works different shifts requiring him to sleep during the day, when construction of the overpass and freeway will be occurring. Clearly it will be impossible for him to obtain any restful sleep during daytime hours and this will have a direct impact upon his ability to provide 'essential services' to our community.

We purchased this property because it met a number of our needs, such as but not limited to; a number of other nearby households for support and community while living in a peaceful and private location.

Since the freeway route was proposed then announced, every nearby property in our community has been purchased by as part of the freeway and overpass construction plan; except our property and another property fronting Wardell road.

Our proposal to you is that we enter into negotiations with the view of you purchasing our property; allowing us to relocate to another community, away from the freeway and the issues both health and environmental outlined above and others not touched upon.

Yours sincerely

Peter VERE-ROBERTS



Rosenne SPACKMAN

