

Major Projects Assessment
Dept Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001



Attention: Director Infrastructure Projects

**Re: Submission on Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade concerning Section 1
Application number 551-4963**

I wish to make a submission, objection regarding the proposed road bridge structures design proposals over the Corindi Flood plain and Casson's Creek floodways.

Concern 1

The bridge over the Corindi flood plain should be at least 400m long (not 300m or less as proposed) to cater for the massive volume of flood waters in this area. The water on this flood plain is generated by Corindi Creek overflows from several locations upstream, Casson's Creek overflow and other off stream catchments. This is a natural floodway way for these events and should not be restricted in any way. The correct location of this structure is also critical.

Concern 2

The bridge over Casson's Creek needs to be at least 100m long (not 60-70m as proposed). The flood waters now, with no bridge restriction at this location, reaches a depth over the top of my fences. I fear the water restriction with extra depth will cause more fence damage and debris deposition.

I own the properties that will be directly impacted on in these areas. My family has conducted dairy farming, beef cattle grazing and timber production businesses on this property for over 130 years and understands the flooding effects in this area.

I believe the current proposals will result in more flood water inundation and higher flood water levels on my property.

The recent RMS improvement to the existing Pacific Highway in this nearby area over the Corindi flood plain has resulted in disaster. RMS management of flood water from this area resulted in several inundations of buildings, increased flood levels in Corindi Creek, Blackadder Gully and Casson's Creek and longer inundation periods of my land and the neighboring properties. This is a result of RMS not putting sufficient drainage structures under the new construction section after raising the road surface level at least 1m and not consulting locals.

I am concerned that any obstruction caused by the proposed new highway construction to this floodway and creeks will have a detrimental effect on my grazing business, stock safety, personal safety in emergencies, fertility of the land and property value. This would also effect several neighboring properties immediately up and down stream.

The deliberate design and placement of these structures to hold back free flowing flood water is an unacceptable practice in this situation.

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