



# Moorland to Herons Creek

Upgrading the Pacific Highway

**COMMUNITY UPDATE - EIS EXHIBITION**

**JUNE 2005**



In October 2000, the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) began planning a dual carriageway upgrade route of the Pacific Highway from Moorland to Herons Creek. The refined concept for the preferred option was displayed in November 2002. After further consultation and investigation, alternative interchange options at Kew were displayed in December 2003.

An environmental impact statement (EIS) has now been prepared to describe the concept design and examine the environmental impacts of the preferred option. The EIS will be on public exhibition for comment from **Wednesday 22 June 2005 to Friday 5 August 2005**.

## The proposal

The proposal involves upgrading a 22.2 km section of the Pacific Highway by duplicating sections of the existing highway and constructing bypasses around the towns of Johns River and Kew. The key features of the proposal are:

- **Johns River bypass:** South of Johns River, an additional carriageway would be constructed (joining the northern end of the Coopernook to Moorland project). A 2.5 km western bypass of Johns River is also proposed. A grade-separated interchange at Stewarts River Road with on and off ramps would provide a connection to Johns River for northbound traffic. Southbound access to and from Johns River would be via the existing highway with an off-ramp to the north and an on-ramp to the south.
- **Lake section:** A new carriageway would be constructed to the west of the existing highway from north of the Stewarts River to north of the Camden Haven River. No land would be required from Middle Brother National Park. New bridges, located to the west of the existing bridges, would be built over the Stewarts River, Stony Creek, the Main Northern Railway line, and the Camden Haven River.
- **Kew bypass:** North of the Camden Haven River there would be a 2.5 km bypass to the east of the Kew township. A grade-separated interchange at Ocean Drive with on and off ramps would provide a connection to Kew for southbound traffic. Northbound access to and from Kew would be via the existing highway with an off-ramp to the south and an on-ramp to the north.
- **Herons Creek section:** North of Kew, a new southbound carriageway would be constructed to the east of the existing highway, from approximately 700 metres north of Ocean Drive to just north of the Herons Creek timber mill. North of the timber mill, the additional carriageway is located to the west of the existing highway before connecting to the existing northbound carriageway at the Bobs Creek Road intersection.

## Benefits of the proposal

The upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Moorland and Herons Creek would result in substantial transport and amenity improvements.

- Improved road safety and amenity for highway users, local traffic and residents.
- Improved level of service for road users through increased traffic capacity.
- Reduced congestion on the highway.
- Reduced travel times and journey costs.
- Improved accessibility for residents within Johns River and Kew.
- Lower noise levels for some residents, especially at night.
- Improved air quality for residents by relocating through traffic to outside urban areas.

## Potential impact

The proposal would result in:

- Property acquisition including four houses.
- Altered access to the highway for some residents.
- Noise impacts on some residences.
- Loss of highway-related trade for some businesses.

The proposal outlines measures to reduce these impacts.

With the implementation of proposed mitigation measures, the proposal would result in a net benefit for the community as a whole.



Photomontage of Kew looking northwards towards Herons Creek showing proposed Pacific Highway bypass and overpass



Photomontage of proposed parallel bridge at Camden Haven River



Photomontage view to west of Johns River with Stewarts River valley beyond, showing proposed Pacific Highway bypass and overpass



**LEGEND**

- Proposed route
- Existing Pacific Highway
- Existing local roads
- Lot boundaries

Date of aerial photography: October 2000

## What happens next

Following the exhibition of the EIS, the RTA will consider community feedback (called a representation) and will document both the submissions and the issues raised in a Representations Report. The approval of the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning will then be sought for the proposal. If this approval is granted, the Chief Executive of the RTA will then determine whether to proceed with the proposal.

## Display locations

The EIS will be on public exhibition for comment from **Wednesday 22 June 2005 to Friday 5 August 2005** at the following locations:

- #Roads and Traffic Authority (Sydney), Ground floor, Centennial Plaza, 260 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills (Mon-Fri 8.30am-5pm)
- #RTA Pacific Highway Office, 21 Prince Street, Grafton (Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm)
- #RTA Port Macquarie Motor Registry, corner Central Road and Barton Crescent, Port Macquarie (Mon-Fri 9am-4pm)
- #RTA Taree Motor Registry, 7 Macquarie Street, Taree (Mon-Fri 9am-4pm)
- #RTA Wauchope Motor Registry, corner Young and Hastings Streets, Wauchope (Mon-Fri 9am-4pm)
- NSW Government Information Centre, Goodsell Building, corner Phillip and Hunter Streets, Sydney (Mon-Fri 9.30am-4pm)
- Nature Conservation Council (NSW Environment Centre) (Sydney), Level 5, 362 Kent Street, Sydney (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)
- Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (Sydney), Henry Deane Building, 20 Lee Street, Haymarket (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, until Friday 24 June 2005)

- Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (Sydney), Ground Floor, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, from Monday 27 June 2005)
- Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources (Grafton), Government Office Block, 49 Victoria Street, Grafton (Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm)
- Greater Taree City Council, 2 Pulteney Street, Taree (Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm)
- Hastings Council, Burrawan Street (corner Lord Street), Port Macquarie (Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm)
- Kew Visitor Information Centre, Pacific Highway, Kew (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)
- Laurieton Library, Laurie Street, Laurieton (Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm, Sat 9am-noon)

The EIS will be available for viewing on the RTA website at [www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific) (click on Moorland to Herons Creek under the Hexham to Port Macquarie sub-heading). Copies will be available for purchase in hard copy for \$25 (including GST) or as a CD for \$10 (including GST) at locations marked with [#].

## Have your say

Persons or organisations wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to make written representations to:

RTA Project Manager  
Roger Fenner  
PO Box 546  
Grafton NSW 2460

Email: [Roger\\_Fenner@rta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Roger_Fenner@rta.nsw.gov.au)

Representations must be received by **Friday 5 August 2005**.

All information in representations received may be published in subsequent assessment documents. Where the supplier indicates at the time of supply of information that it should be kept confidential, the RTA will attempt to keep it confidential but there may be legislative or legal justification for the release of the information, for example under the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* or under subpoena or statutory instrument.

→ For more information contact the RTA's Project Manager, Roger Fenner:  
PO Box 546 Grafton NSW 2460

 T 02 6640 1000  F 02 6640 1001  [Roger\\_Fenner@rta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Roger_Fenner@rta.nsw.gov.au)

 [www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific) (click on Moorland to Herons Creek)

 1800 353 670 (Toll Free) Project Information Line