

Media Release



Monday, 16 April 2007

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BEGINS ON TINTENBAR TO EWINGSDALE UPGRADE

The RTA has started the Environmental Assessment process for the Tintenbar to Ewingsdale Pacific Highway upgrade, as part of planning approvals for the project.

An RTA spokesperson said the Environmental Assessment outlines the proposal, its potential impacts and the proposed environmental controls.

“The Pacific Highway upgrade between Tintenbar to Ewingsdale will provide approximately 17 kilometres of dual carriageway.

“The upgrade will significantly improve safety and relieve traffic congestion on this section of the Pacific Highway.

“The concept design will be refined from further field studies and community input during the Environmental Assessment.

“A range of issues, including property, environmental, noise and access will be closely considered as part of this Environmental Assessment process.

“The assessment will focus on key issues identified by the Department of Planning and other agencies including potential social, economic and environmental impacts.

“Ongoing community consultation will occur once the environmental assessment has been put on display by the Department of Planning.

“At the end of the display the RTA will respond to any issues raised and consider possible changes to the proposal.”

The RTA has started the environmental assessment and is seeking planning approval under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

Details of the application are available on the NSW Department of Planning website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au or the project website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific (click on Tintenbar to Ewingsdale) or by phoning the project information line on 1800 882 787 (toll free).

The preferred route for the Tintenbar to Ewingsdale Pacific Highway upgrade was put on display in October and November 2006.

The Australian and NSW Governments will spend \$1.3 billion upgrading the Pacific Highway in the three years to 2009 in addition to \$2.3 billion spent during the last decade.

The completed Pacific Highway Upgrade will mean 664 kilometres of continuous dual carriageway from the F3 Freeway near Hexham to the Tugun Bypass on the Queensland border.

CONTACT: RTA Media Unit

PH: 02 9218 6140
