

Coopernook to Herons Creek

Upgrading the Pacific Highway



LBX 27 controlled blasting north of Stewarts River

19 June 2008

Dear resident

Controlled blasting – Stewarts River area

The NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has formed an alliance with Thiess Pty Ltd and Parsons Brinckerhoff Australia Pty Ltd to design and construct the 33 km dual carriageway upgrade of the Pacific Highway from Coopernook to Herons Creek (incorporating the Coopernook to Moorland and Moorland to Herons Creek projects). The project includes bypasses of the villages of South Moorland, Johns River and Kew. This project is jointly funded by the NSW and Australian governments and is scheduled for completion December 2009.

About controlled blasting

As part of this project, controlled blasting will occur along cuttings in sections of the existing Pacific Highway and bypasses between Johns River and Kew. The purpose of the controlled blasting is to assist in the removal of hard rock to enable the highway earthworks to be completed.

About 60 blasts will be required on this project. The program of blasting is expected to take about six months. There will be a maximum of one blast on any given day between 9pm and 3pm. Affected residents will be notified prior to the blast.

Stewarts River area – controlled blasting

A controlled blast will occur approximately 500m north of the Stewarts River bridge. **The blast is scheduled for the Tuesday 24 June between 1.45pm and 2.00pm, weather permitting.**

Exclusion zone

Careful consideration has been given to blast design and quality control to prevent fly rock damage to people and property during the blasting process. Government guidelines require that an exclusion zone be established and maintained for each controlled blast as an additional safety measure. The exclusion zone is the area surrounding each controlled blast (typically a distance of between 300 and 500 metres) and must be clear of all people at the time of the blast. Alliance engineers have defined the exclusion zone and property owners within this zone will be contacted by a representative of the alliance team to make appropriate arrangements during the blast.

Coopernook to Herons Creek Alliance

A team consisting of the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority,
Thiess Pty Ltd and Parsons Brinckerhoff Australia Pty Ltd
PO Box 37 Kendall NSW 2439
Freecall: 1800 353 670 Facsimile: 02 6559 4248
Email: community.enquiries@c2hc.incite.com.au



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Traffic effects

For safety reasons, traffic will be stopped for up to 5 minutes during routine blasting operations while more complex blasts may extend to 15 minutes in some circumstances.

Traffic changes for blasting are advertised as part of our quarterly construction updates in newspapers, and on electronic signs in advance of the area.

Community Information

The alliance will work closely with the community to ensure every practical and feasible measure will be undertaken to minimise any impacts on the nearby residents and maintain safety. We have enclosed an information sheet to provide you more information about controlled blasting.

The alliance apologises for any inconvenience this work may cause and will undertake every practical measure to minimise the impact on the residents and the environment.

More information

To find out more, make a comment, or lodge a complaint about construction activities, please call the project information line on **1800 353 670** (24 hours, toll free), email community.enquiries@C2HC.incite.com.au, or visit our website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific (click on Coopernook to Herons Creek). Alternatively, you may wish to visit our display centre at the project site office in Wharf Road, Johns River.

Yours sincerely

Louise Neville

Community Manager
Coopernook to Herons Creek Project

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