

18 MARCH 2012

Berry bypass review - independence of the process

Members of the community have asked questions about how an independent review of the suggested southern route can be undertaken if the reviewer has been selected by the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and paid for by them.

To ensure the integrity of the process, two separate reviews are currently being undertaken by a Technical Information Group (TIG) and an independent review panel including industry-leader SMEC and Brian Lyall & Associates.

The principal objective of the independent review of the TIG is to observe and record the nature of the process. This will ensure the TIG is thorough and even handed when developing the strategic route feasibility estimate for a southern bypass and the technical inputs required to produce it.

The relative costs of the northern and southern routes will help the NSW Government consider whether further investigations and consultation are necessary for a suggested southern bypass.

The TIG is:

- Developing an indicative route bypassing Berry to the south with sufficient information to produce a robust strategic estimate.
- Optimising the southern route's design to minimise property impacts and land severance
- Engineering a cost effective southern route solution.
- Applying any applicable benefits found on the southern route to the northern route and vice versa.
- Evaluating the feasibility of the southern route by comparing it to the currently preferred northern bypass route.

The Independent Review is:

- Ensuring TIG's investigations have been conducted in an unbiased manner for both route options.
- Analysing the TIG's processes and considering the scope of work and outputs.
- Ensuring the scope of work and outputs are in line with community and RMS expectations.
- Ensuring the best possible engineering solutions are being applied to both routes.
- Ensuring community ideas are included in developing the route designs and construction methods.
- Ensuring the appropriate risk factors and contingencies have been adopted, and are properly documented.
- Ensuring the construction programme is realistic and in line with industry norms.
- Rigorously testing the cost estimates.

This is a robust process using recognised professional engineers.

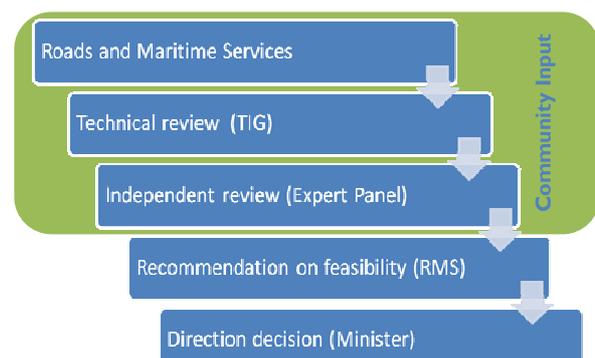
Roles

It is the role of RMS to ensure that the best possible expertise is being used.

It is the role of the professional engineers to ensure that their findings have professional integrity.

It is the role of the community to provide their feedback to these experts as identified in their scope which was developed with the community.

Review pathway



RMS project achievements. Have a look.

www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/resources/documents/reports/achievements_display_book.pdf