



Regional Manager's weekly update

24 April 2012

Dear community,

As I mentioned to you in my update last week, we will now be updating the Foxground and Berry bypass website every Tuesday.

Today's update includes:

- A new 'process map' outlining the milestone dates and what RMS plans to achieve over the next few weeks for the southern bypass review.
- Progress of the technical investigations into bypass review;
- An updated issues and actions register which now includes outcomes, so we can start updating you on the close out of issues;
- A new bypass fact sheet explaining the independence of the review process;
- New meeting notes from the technical investigation group who are continually analysing and reviewing the details of the cost comparison process, ensuring community input is given careful consideration;
- New meeting notes from various working groups;
- Other notes from meetings held with the community over the past week;
- Update on what we can expect at the next Q & A session on 30 April 2012.

I was asked this week about the TIG meeting minutes and critical issues register updates and the timeliness of their inclusion on the website. Due to the Easter break and school holidays we did not have our regular TIG meetings but please be assured that any meetings that have occurred are scheduled to go up onto the website in our regular web update on Tuesdays.

I look forward to meeting some of you next week at 6:30pm on 30 April 2012 at the Berry School of Arts for one of our regular Q&A session on the southern route review. As you know, since the original investigation began we have also added another layer of analysis to ensure the integrity of the process. Industry leaders SMEC are reviewing the work of the TIG and also listening to comments and ideas posed to them by individual community members.

As I mentioned last week, this further layer of review, together with the wet weather we have been having has delayed the investigations and thus the cost estimates. Nevertheless, we will still be able to bring you up to date with the investigations and our experts will be available to take questions, including around the current parameters of the cost estimate. It is important to note that additional suggested changes to the alignment and other elements of the review, which have come to us most recently from community members, are being considered as costings in the final report so that we can get a timely outcome to these deliberations .

All this is about reaching a decision on the route alignment in the next month or so in order for the project to proceed – either to an environmental impact study if the southern route is chosen or to construction if the northern route is chosen. That decision will be made by the government from the input given by the technical review teams, the community and the RMS - not individually by the TIG, the RMS or even the independent reviewer.

Thank you for your interest in this important project for the South Coast.

Yours sincerely,

Brad Turner
Regional Manager