Department of State Growth

Enquiries: Keira Grundy, Environment and Planning Approvals Officer Salamanca Building Parliament Square 4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001 Australia Email keira.grundy@stategrowth.tas.gov.au Phone: (03) 6166 3382 Ref: D21/147584

Tasmanian Government

24 June 2021

Paul Godier Senior Planner Northern Midlands Council PO Box 156 LONGFORD TAS 7301

Dear Mr Godier,

Midland Highway I 0 Year Action Plan - Final Stages - Ross (Mona Vale Road to Campbell Town) - Exemption from Planning Permit

The Department of State Growth (State Growth) is planning to undertake the final stages of the Midland Highway I 0-year Action Plan which includes the project referred to as Ross (Mona Vale Road to Campbell Town).

Project Location

The Ross project area is located between Mona Vale Road to Campbell Town with a total length of approximately 14.2km. Figure I below provides a context map with the extent of works for the "Ross" section.

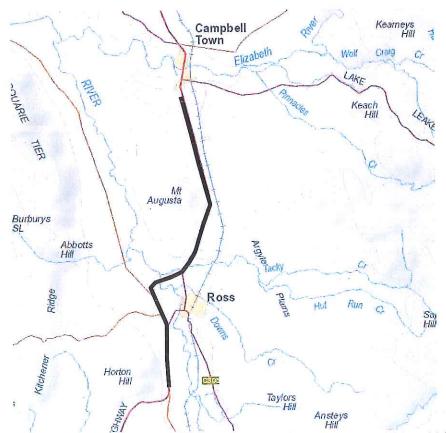


Figure I- "Ross:" section of the Midland Highway Upgrade between Mona Vale Road and Campbell Town

Midland Highway 10-year Action Plan

The Midland Highway 10 Year Action Plan sets out the Australian and Tasmanian governments' key priorities for investing \$500 million over 10 years to upgrade the highway and improve road safety and save lives on Tasmania's key north-south freight route. The Action Plan involves network upgrades to improve road safety and decrease driver frustration by providing a safer road with more overtaking opportunities.

The objective of our 10 year investment in the Midland Highway is to deliver a minimum 3-star AusRAP rating for the entire length of the highway. The AusRAP Star Rating Australia's National Network of Highways 2013 report found that the majority of the Midland Highway rated either only 1 or 2-star, in its 5-star safety rating scale.

For most of the Midland Highway, the predominant crash type is loss of control, most of which are single vehicle crashes with some resulting in head-on crashes and fatalities. Approximately, 60% of the fatalities on the highway have been due to head-on crashes. To achieve a 3 star safety rating, a number of road treatments can be applied.

To date, sixteen projects have been completed or are currently under construction.

Ross (Mona Vale Road and Campbell Town) Project Scope

The main aim of this project is to improve road safety, minimise the risk of head-on crashes and to bring the design of this stretch of the highway in line with the objectives of the Midland Highway 10 Year Action Plan to achieve a minimum 3-star AusRAP safety rating. This includes maintaining sufficient overtaking opportunities in each direction, maximising use of existing pavements, maintaining existing vertical and horizontal alignment, avoiding earthworks at existing large cuttings/fill areas, and minimising land acquisition to the greatest practical extent.

The highway safety upgrades involve the installation of a flexible safety barrier within a central median to reduce head on crashes and allowance of additional safe overtaking opportunities through lengths of "2+1" lane arrangements. Improvements to some junctions along the route will be undertaken and include the provision of new turn lanes. Localised road widening works are required to accommodate the proposed central median and overtaking lanes. Pavement upgrade works are required where the existing pavement has deteriorated and in locations requiring superelevation correction.

Description of the Proposed Works

The new road cross section will comprise of:

- 3.5m wide general traffic lanes with normal cross fall of 3%.
- 2.0m-3.0m wide sealed shoulders in single lane sections with cross fall matching adjoining traffic lanes.
- 1.0m sealed shoulders for dual lane sections.
- 2.1m-2.6m central median incorporating a flexible safety barrier.
- 0.5m unsealed verge (1.5m when flexible barrier provided, sealed for 1m with barrier located 0.5m from edge of shoulder).

All turn movements are maintained at intersections within the project area. New channelised right turn lanes are being provided at two intersections – Auburn Road and Ashby Road.

Overtaking lanes within the project area include:

- A new northbound overtaking lane between Mona Vale and Ross (approx. I500m in length) approximately Ch. 98000 to 99500.
- A southbound overtaking lane located north of Ross (approx. 1200m in length) approximately Ch. 105500 to 106700.
- A northbound overtaking lane located north of Ross (approx. 1500m in length) approximately Ch. 107700 to 109300.
- A southbound overtaking lane on the southern side of Campbell Town (approx. 1100m in length) approximately Ch. 110400 to 111500.

Turn around facilities will be included at the following locations to help facilitate farming activities:

On highway "G-Turn" located approx. 500m north of Chiswick Road (south to north movements) approximately Ch. 104300

Off network "G-Turn" located approx. Ikm north Chiswick Road (all movements) approximately Ch. 105500

On highway double "G-Turn" located approx. 3km north of Chiswick Road (all movements) approximately Ch. 106900

Off network "P-Turn" located approx. Ikm south of Campbell Town (all movements) approximately Ch. 110000

No widening works will take place on the Macquarie River Bridge Design Schematics have been provided at Attachment A.

Land Acquisition

The project will involve minor acquisition along parts of the project to accommodate the works. The land acquisition process is not part of the planning permit application and will be undertaken under the Land Acquisitions Act 1993. Engagement with relevant landowners has commenced.

The project will involve in minor conversion rural resource zoned land for utilities use (refer Attachment A).

Access

Generally, accesses within the project site will be maintained as left-in/left out. It is expected that accesses will be sealed at least to the property boundary.

Traffic Management

State Growth will ensure the public are made fully aware of impending construction to ensure minimal impacts on traffic flows during construction and for surrounding residents. Road works are anticipated to commence in September 2021. The road works will be performed under an approved traffic management plan by the contractor to ensure the least possible disruption to road users. There will be reduced speed limits at the work site for the safety of construction staff and the travelling public.

Planning Scheme Exemptions

The Ross section is located within the Northern Midlands local government area and is subject to the provisions of the Northern Midlands Interim Planning Scheme 2013 (Planning Scheme). The works are considered by State Growth to meet the relevant exemptions discussed below:

- Clause 5.2.4 Road Works
- Clause 5.2.5 Vehicle crossings, junctions and level crossings
- Clause 5.2.8 Upgrades of linear and minor infrastructure

Clause 5.2.4 Road works

Maintenance and repair of roads and upgrading by or on behalf of the road authority which may extend up to 3m outside the <u>road</u> reserve including:

(a) widening or narrowing of existing carriageways;

- (b) making, placing or upgrading kerbs, gutters, footpaths, shoulders, roadsides, traffic control devices, line markings, street lighting, safety barriers, signs, fencing and landscaping, unless a code relating to historic heritage values or significant trees applies and requires a permit for the use or development; or
- (c) repair of bridges, or replacement of bridges of similar size in the same or adjacent location

The majority of works (i.e. upgrading on behalf of the road authority) will occur within the existing road reserve or within 3m of the road reserve boundary as shown at Attachment C. The exemption under Clause 5.2.4 Road Works for use and development therefore applies to these works.

The exemption at Clause 5.2.4 applies.

Clause 5.2.5 Vehicle crossings, junctions and level crossings

If:

- (a) development of a vehicle crossing, junction or level crossing:
 - (i) by the <u>road</u> or <u>rail authority</u>; or
 - (ii) in accordance with written consent from the relevant <u>road</u> or <u>rail authority</u>; or
- (b) use of a <u>vehicle crossing</u>, <u>junction</u> or <u>level crossing</u> by a <u>road</u> or <u>railway</u> authority

Proposed works associated with vehicle crossings, junctions and level crossings are exempt from use and development controls under Clause 5.2.5 vehicle Crossings, junctions and level crossings as use and development will be by the Department of State Growth (the road authority). There are a number of road junctions where works are proposed outside of 3m from the road reserve (refer Attachment A for Design Schematics). Use and development at these junctions are exempt under Clause 5.2.5.

The exemption at Clause 5.2.5 applies.

Clause 5.2.8 upgrades of linear and minor utilities and infrastructure

If minor upgrades by or on behalf of the State government, a Council, or a statutory authority or a corporation all the shares of which are held by or on behalf of the State or by a statutory authority, of infrastructure (excluding stormwater infrastructure under subclause 5.2.2 and <u>road works</u> under subclause 5.2.3) such as roads, rail lines, footbaths, cycle paths, drains, sewers, power lines and pipelines including:

- (a) minor widening or narrowing of existing carriageways; or
- (b) making, placing or upgrading kerbs, gutters, footpaths, roadsides, traffic control devices and markings, street lighting and landscaping,

unless the following apply:

- (c) a code in this planning scheme which lists a <u>heritage place</u> or precinct and requires a permit for the use or development that is to be undertaken; or
- (d) the removal of any threatened vegetation.

All other works outside of the 3m from the road reserve and not associated with vehicle crossings, junctions and level crossings are considered exempt under Clause 5.2.8 upgrades of linear and minor utilities and infrastructure.

Minor upgrade

The proposed works will involve minor upgrades to the Category I highway as part of the final stages of the Midland Highway Safety Upgrades program. The works will be undertaken on behalf of the Department of State Growth, the State Government, and involve:

- Installation of central safety barriers (i.e. traffic control devices);
- Minor widening of the existing carriageway to accommodate additional safe overtaking opportunities through lengths of "2+1" lane arrangements, turn around facilities and central safety barriers; and
- Site rehabilitation and landscaping.

The works will not increase network capacity or speed and are for the purpose of achieving a minimum 3-starAusRAP safety rating. This exemption has been confirmed by Councils for State Road works including upgrades to the Midland Highway, and works of a similar nature such as:

- Waratah Wynyard Council Murchison Highway upgrades including 13km of road widening, bridge replacement and roadside vegetation clearing.
- Break O'Day Council Esk Main Road including road widening and shoulder reinstatement.
- Huon Valley Council Huon Highway Glendevie Climbing / Overtaking Lanes including realignment of the carriageway, curve widening, two G turn facilities at two relocated accesses.

Additional examples may be provided on request. It is considered that Clause 5.2.8 applies unless the following applies:

- (a) a code in this planning scheme which lists a <u>heritage place</u> or precinct and requires a permit for the use or <u>development</u> that is to be undertaken; or
- (b) the removal of any threatened vegetation.

<u>Heritage</u>

The Local Historic Heritage Code, defines the following:

- Heritage Precinct means an area described in Table E13.1 Local Heritage Precincts to this code as
 an area of special aesthetic, historic, scientific (including archaeological), spiritual or social value in
 which it is desirable to preserve or enhance the streetscape, townscape and/or notable character and
 significant features of the area
- Local Heritage Place means a place entered on the Local Heritage List contained in Table E13.2:
 Local Heritage Places outside precincts to this code

Table E13.2 of The Local Historic Heritage Code states that where a Local Heritage Place is contained in the Tasmanian Heritage Register, the place is limited to that part of the title defined on the Tasmanian Heritage Council's Central Plan Register.

No Local Heritage Precincts are affected by the proposed works. There are two Local Heritage Places where works do intersect property boundaries. These locations are the Roseneath heritage site (Attachment C - Map 4 of 5), and Somercotes heritage site (Attachment C - Map 5 of 5). Exclusion agreements issued by the Tasmanian Heritage Council (THC) for these sites (Attachment B) show the area (Heritage Precinct) limited to what is defined on the register and where approval would be required for development proposals under the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995. The THC does not have any interest with activities defined as exclusions outside the Heritage Precinct for these sites. The works are within the exclusion areas of each site. In addition, exemption documentation issued by the THC (Attachment B) for the specific works on each site confirms that there is not expected to be an impact on the heritage significance of both the Roseneath and Somercotes site.

No heritage precincts or places (listed in Table E13.1 or Table E13.2 of the Planning Scheme) will impacted by the proposed works. It is therefore considered that Clause 5.2.8 applies.

Threatened vegetation

Under the Planning Scheme, **threatened vegetation** is defined as a threatened native vegetation community that is listed in Schedule 3A of the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* (NCA) or a threatened native ecological community that is listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

A Natural Values Assessment (NVA) was undertaken by Jacobs' ecology division to inform detailed design. A desktop review of TASVEG 4.0 and Threatened Native Vegetation Communities layers on LISTmap shows that the majority of the landscape is devoid of native vegetation, is dominated by agricultural land uses and subsequently, no mapped threatened vegetation communities intersect the assessment area (i.e. Construction Footprint and 20m buffer). Vegetation was ground-truthed by ecological field survey which confirmed that no threatened vegetation communities, as listed under the NCA or threatened ecological communities as listed under the EPBC Act will be impacted by the works.

A small number of threatened flora species protected under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* were recorded. Impacts to threatened flora will require a Permit to Take from DPIPWE. This separate approval process has commenced with DPIPWE. The NVA report is in the process of being finalised and can be supplied to Council on request. Reference maps at Attachment C provide site context and the extent of works.

The works do not involve the removal of any threatened vegetation communities listed under the *Nature Conservation Act* 2002 or *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999 (refer Attachment C). It is considered that Clause 5.2.8 applies.

The exemption at Clause 5.2.8 applies.

To allow State Growth to proceed with these important works, could you please provide confirmation that Council considers the proposed road works exempt from planning approval? I kindly ask for your response within 14 days of receipt of this letter.

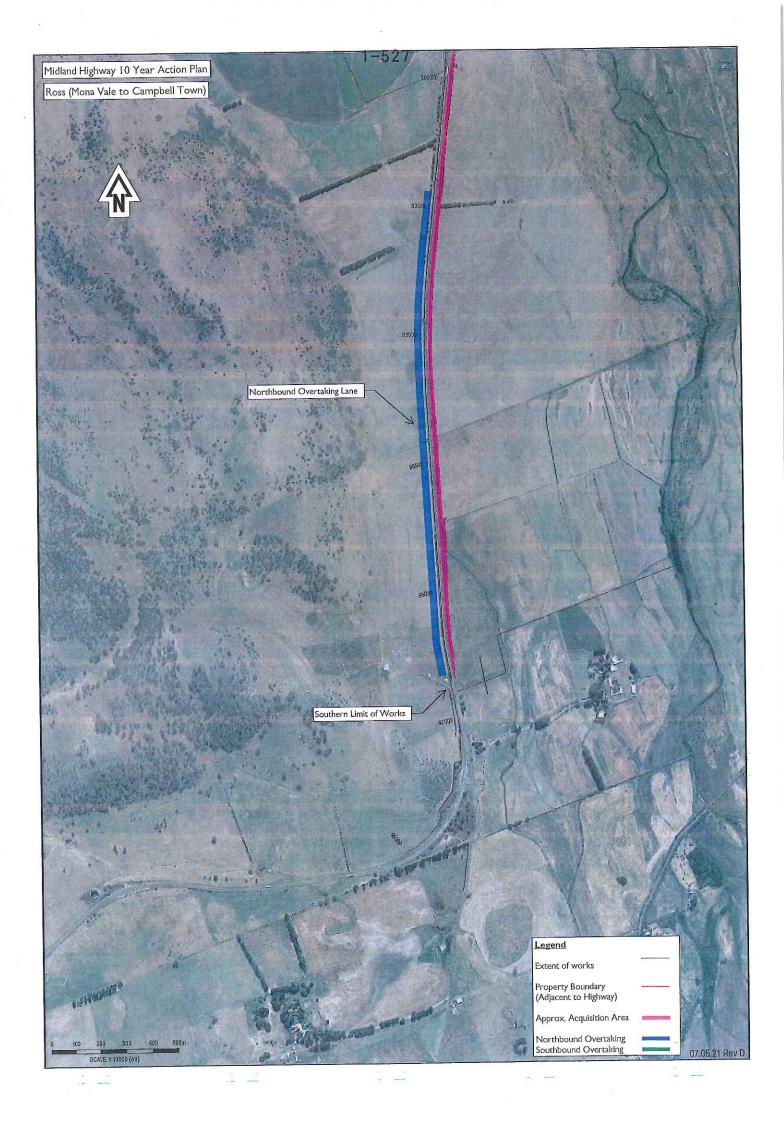
If you require clarification on the above matters or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

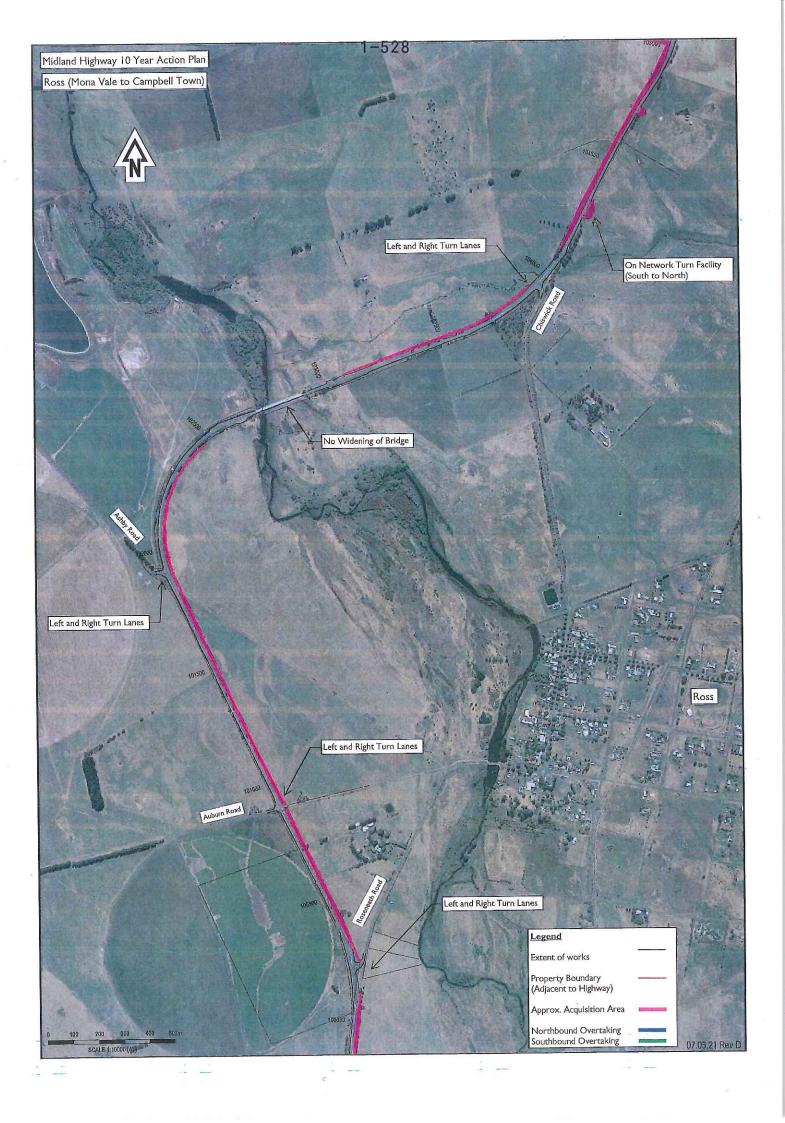
Kind regards,

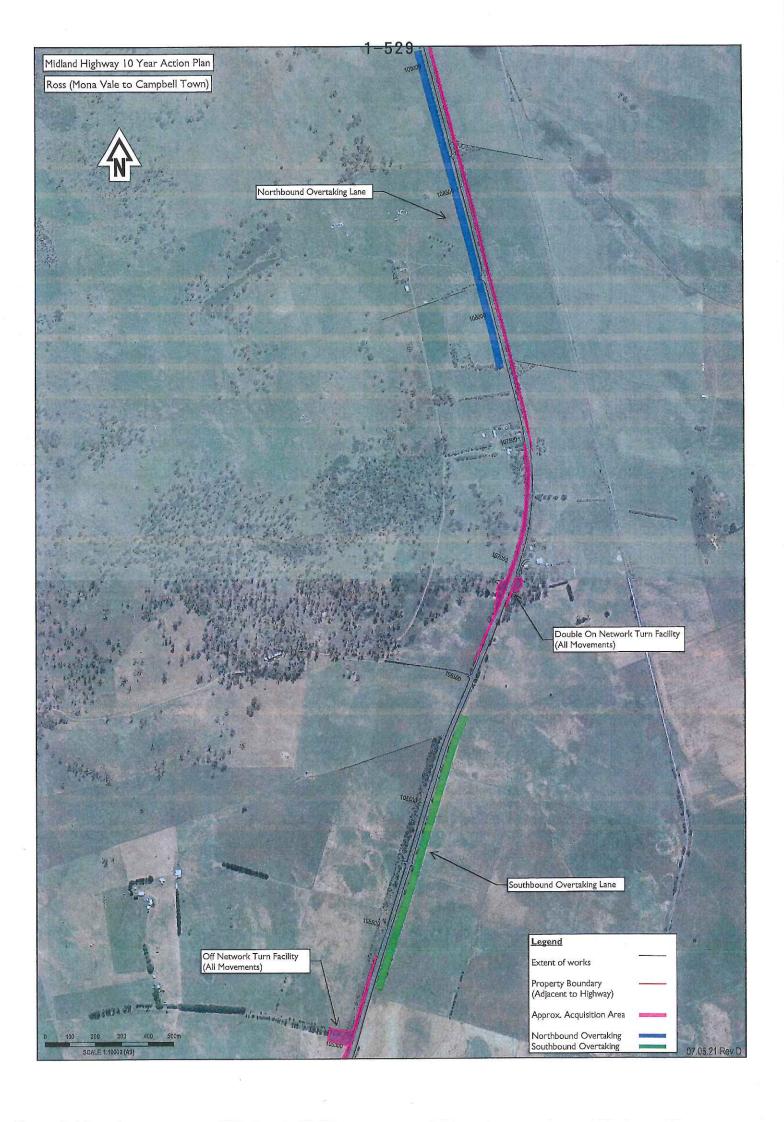
Keira Grundy

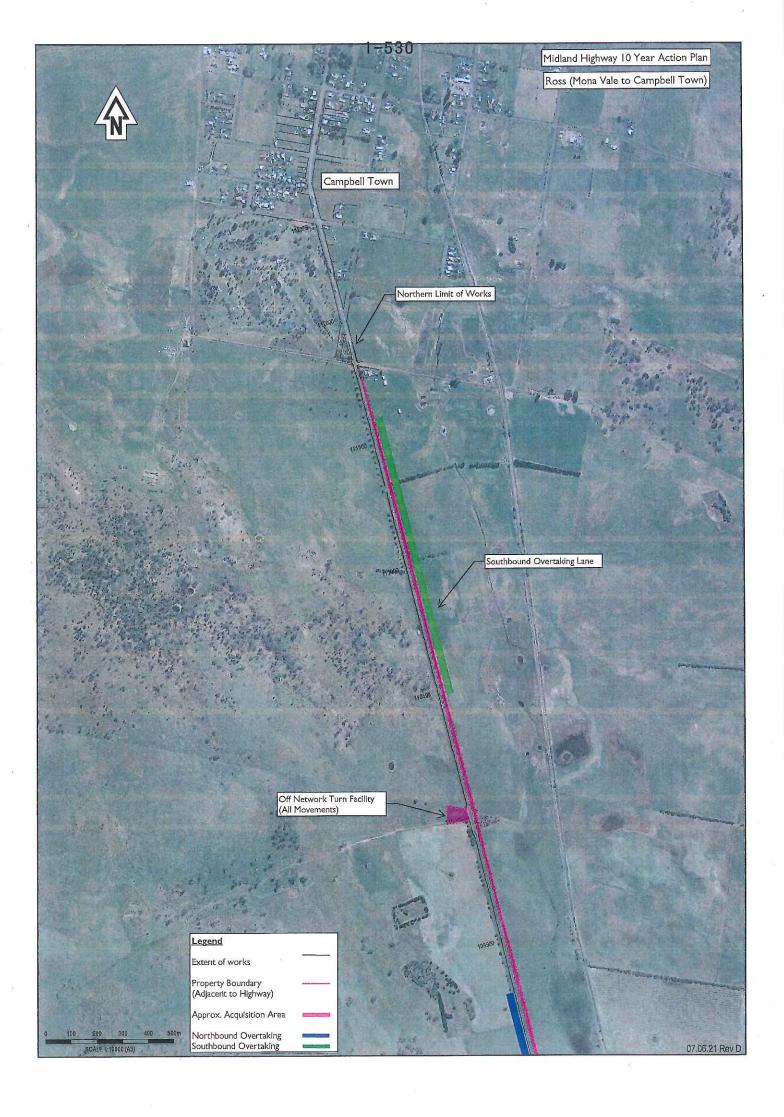
Environment and Planning Approvals Officer

State Roads - Department of State Growth











Tasmanian Heritage Council GPO Box 618 Hobart Tasmania 7000 Tel: 1300 850 332 enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au www.heritage.tas.gov.au

PLANNING REF:

N/A

EXEMPTION NO:

REGISTERED PLACE NO:

#3410 #5264

FILE NO:

06-28-20 THC

APPLICANT:

Department of State Growth

DATE:

29 April 2021

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION

(Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995)

The Place: 'Roseneath', 50 Roseneath Road, Ross.

Thank you for your application for a Certificate of Exemption for works to the above place. Your application has been approved by the Heritage Council under section 42(3)(a) of the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995 for the following works:

Works:

Upgrade of the Midland Highway between Mona Vale and Ross, to include

widening of the current road corridor into the registered 'Roseneath'

title boundary - ref. CT121207/1.

Documents: Exemption Certificate Application received 21/04/2021 from Department

of State Growth (David Spiers) with attached 'Roseneath Impact Map'.

Comments: The proposed works have no impact on significant heritage features and are generally consistent with that which Section 2.1 of the Tasmanian Heritage Council's Works Guidelines (General Maintenance – Rural Activities)

describes as being eligible for a Certificate of Exemption.

A copy of this certificate will be forwarded to the local planning authority for their information. Please note, this Certificate of Exemption is an approval under the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995 only. This certificate is not an approval under any other Act. Further approvals such as planning, building or plumbing may be required. For information regarding these or any other approval, contact your local Council.

Information on the types of work that may be eligible for a Certificate of Exemption is available in the Tasmanian Heritage Council's Works Guidelines for Historic Heritage Places (Nov. 2015). The Works Guidelines can be downloaded from www.heritage.tas.gov.au

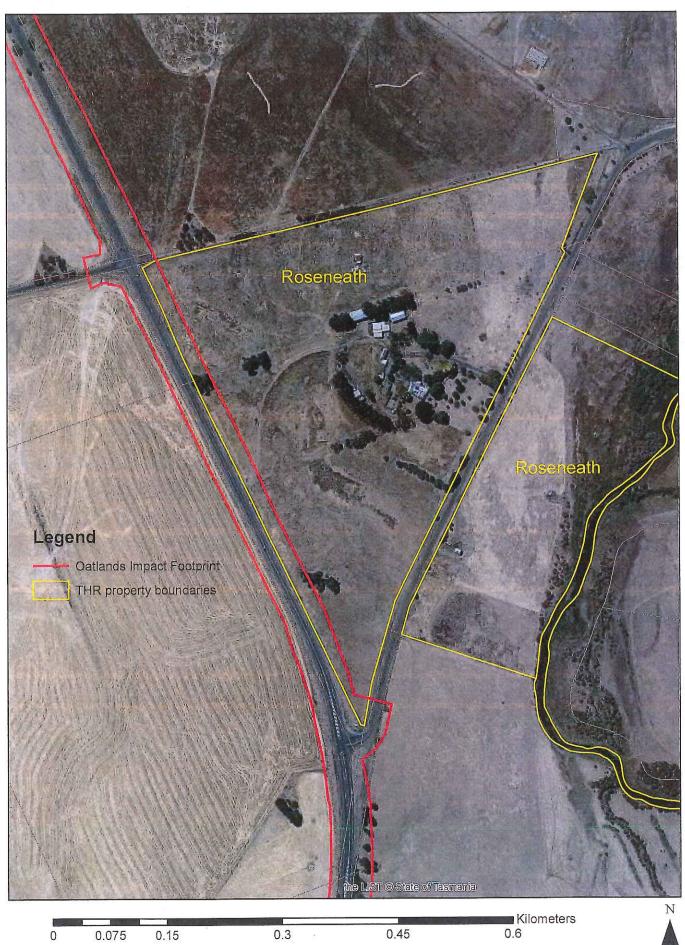
Please contact the undersigned on 1300 850 332 if you require further information.

Chris Bonner

Regional Heritage Advisor - Heritage Tasmania

Under delegation of the Tasmanian Heritage Council

1-532 Roseneath



0.3

0.075

0.15

0.45



Tasmanian Heritage Council

134 Macquarie St or GPO Box 618 Hobart Tasmania 7001

EXCLUSION AGREEMENT FOR RURAL PROPERTY OWNER

The Tasmanian Heritage Council has an interest in the buildings, and features itemised in *Inclusions* below. For development proposals on these buildings and features a *Works Application* to the Heritage Council in accordance with section 32(2) of the Historic Cultural heritage act 1995 will be required as part of the usual process when applying to the local council for approval.

The Heritage Council does not have an interest in any of those features and activities in respect to the property referred to below and itemised in the *Exclusions*.

PROPERTY NAME:

Roseneath

ADDRESS:

RA 115 Old Midlands Highway, Ross

PROPERTY OWNER:

Mr SM Rapley

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 1299, Launceston 7250

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBERS: rural 1A 1-4

FIELD SKETCH NO: 4788

EASTING:

539900

NORTHING: 5346250

INCLUSIONS

- 1 All the buildings and features in the Heritage Precinct shown on the accompanying field sketch
- 2 Building B outside the Heritage Precinct (The inclusion of building B is to prohibit demolition only).
- 3 Subdivision within the agreed Heritage Precinct

EXCLUSIONS

Primary production.

Fencing activities.

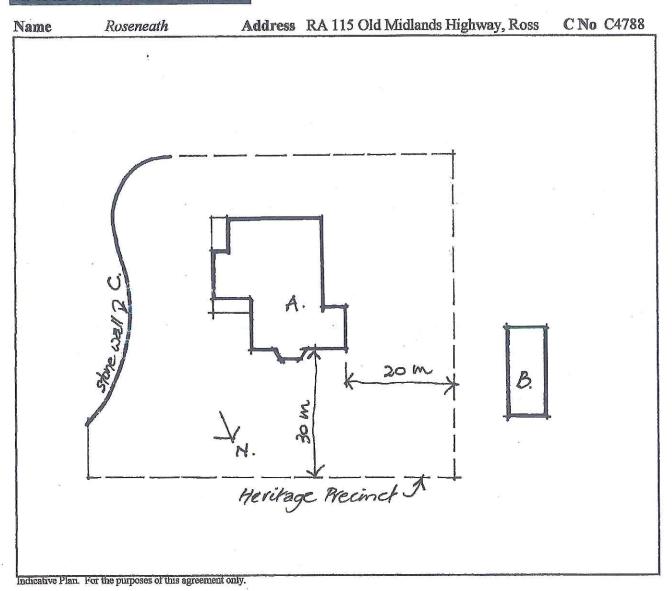
All activities outside the agreed Heritage Precinct

Building works to building B.

Subdivision outside the agreed Heritage Precinct.

Standard maintenance of all buildings and structures.

RURAL PROPERTY SITE PLAN



Inside the Heritage precinct:

Structure A: Main House

Comment:

Included

Structure C: Stone walls

Comment:

Included

Outside the Heritage Precinct:

Structure B: Converted Stables

Comment:

Included only for purposes of application

for demolition



Tasmanian Heritage Council GPO Box 618 Hobart Tasmania 7000 Tel: 1300 850 332 enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au www.heritage.tas.gov.au

PLANNING REF:

N/A

EXEMPTION NO: REGISTERED PLACE NO:

#3411 #5276

FILE NO:

06-28-22 THC

APPLICANT:

Department of State Growth

DATE:

29 April 2021

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION

(Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995)

The Place: 'Somercotes', 9550 Midland Highway, Ross.

Thank you for your application for a Certificate of Exemption for works to the above place. Your application has been approved by the Heritage Council under section 42(3)(a) of the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995 for the following works:

Works:

Upgrade of the Midland Highway between Mona Vale and Ross, to include

widening of the current road corridor into the registered 'Somercotes'

title boundaries - ref. CT170447/1 & 170448/1.

Documents: Exemption Certificate Application received 21/04/2021 from Department

of State Growth (David Spiers) with attached 'Somercotes Impact Map'.

Comments: The proposed works have no impact on significant heritage features and are generally consistent with that which Section 2.1 of the Tasmanian Heritage Council's Works Guidelines (General Maintenance – Rural Activities)

describes as being eligible for a Certificate of Exemption.

A copy of this certificate will be forwarded to the local planning authority for their information. Please note, this Certificate of Exemption is an approval under the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995 only. This certificate is not an approval under any other Act. Further approvals such as planning, building or plumbing may be required. For information regarding these or any other approval, contact your local Council.

Information on the types of work that may be eligible for a Certificate of Exemption is available in the Tasmanian Heritage Council's Works Guidelines for Historic Heritage Places (Nov. 2015). The Works Guidelines can be downloaded from www.heritage.tas.gov.au

Please contact the undersigned on 1300 850 332 if you require further information.

Chris Bonner

Regional Heritage Advisor - Heritage Tasmania

Under delegation of the Tasmanian Heritage Council

1-536 Somercotes



0.6

0.2

0.1

0.4



Tasmanian Heritage Council

134 Macquarie St or GPO Box 618 Hobart Tasmania 7001

EXCLUSION AGREEMENT FOR RURAL PROPERTY OWNER

The Tasmanian Heritage Council has an interest in the buildings, and features itemised in Inclusions below. For development proposals on these buildings and features a Works Application to the Heritage Council in accordance with section 32(2) of the Historic Cultural heritage act 1995 will be required as part of the usual process when applying to the local council for approval.

The Heritage Council does not have an interest in any of those features and activities

itemised in the Exclusions.

PROPERTY NAME:

Somercotes

ADDRESS:

PO Box 5, Ross

PROPERTY OWNER:

Somercotes Pty Ltd

REPRESENTATIVE OF PROPERTY OWNER:

Mr Robert A Riggall

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 5, Ross 7209

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBERS: 2/2/98 32-35 FIELD SKETCH NUMBER: 4797

NORTHING: 5343200

EASTING:

540450

INCLUSIONS

All the buildings and features in the Heritage Precinct shown on the accompanying field sketch.

Subdivision within the agreed Heritage Precinct 2

EXCLUSIONS

Primary production.

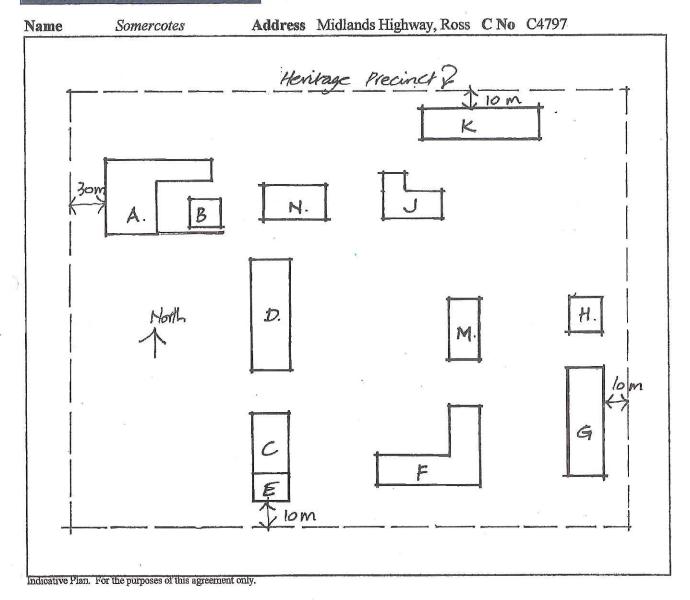
Fencing activities.

All activities and building works outside the agreed Heritage.

Subdivision outside the agreed Heritage Precinct.

Standard maintenance of all buildings and structures.

RURAL PROPERTY SITE PLAN



Structure A:	Main House	Comment:	Included
Structure B:	Dairy	Comment:	Included
Structure C:	Cottage	Comment:	Included
Structure D:	Ticket of Leave Building	Comment:	Included
Structure E:	Blacksmith's Shop	Comment:	Included
Structure F:	Implement Shed	Comment:	Excluded
Structure G:	Barn	Comment:	Included
Structure H:	Calf Shed	Comment:	Included
Structure J:	Timber Tractor Shed	Comment:	Excluded
Structure K:	Stables	Comment:	Included
Structure M:	Cottage	Comment:	Included
Structure N:	Rose Cottage	Comment:	Included
Structure HCP:	Horton College Portico	Comment:	Included
•N			





