Inquiry Name: Inquiry into VicRoads' Management of Country Roads

Mr and Mrs Owen and Janette O'Keefe

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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1 VicRoads are total ineffective in managing country roads because
a) Roads are very poorly constructed especially the shoulders.
b) Very poor maintenance-- The shoulders are not maintained as they have been in the past. Jagged bitumen edges hold water in the winter. The road surfaces are lower than the shoulders. During rain water cannot drain off the roads which is not only very dangerous to drive on but accelerates the deterioration of the road surface.

2 There is a shortage of long term funding for road re-construction. Funding is used for quick stop gap fixes. The current practice of rehabilitating road surfaces by chemical stabilisation does not address the fundamental issue of road drainage and poorly maintained road shoulders. It is also rough to drive on and causes unnecessary damage to vehicles when they are forced off the narrow roads when passing oncoming vehicles.

3 Over the years we have seen various local governments lobbying State Governments for increased funding and it has been our observation that they have been treated with contempt.

4 We like the idea of splitting VicRoads into a Country Roads Authority and a Metro Roads Authority but with the proviso that the regional roads authority is adequately funded. This regional authority would initially need extra funding in the catch up phase (3-5 years) then substantial ongoing funding to improve the regional road network to bring it up to more than the third world standard it is now, not just quick stop gap promises in an election year.

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File1:

File2:

File3: