



INFORMATION SHEET – INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY

Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway – Ettamogah to Murray River

September 2005

The Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway will link the Hume Freeway at Wodonga with the present Hume Highway at Ettamogah, north of Albury.

Abigroup has been contracted to design and construct the freeway. Major construction commenced in June 2005 with the freeway scheduled to open to traffic in mid 2007.

The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) is managing the project in NSW. This section is fully funded by the Australian Government.

Abigroup will liaise, consult and communicate with the community, authorities, agencies and other stakeholders to help meet its obligations and responsibilities for the management of the road network, during construction of the Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway - Ettamogah to Murray River.

Abigroup acknowledge and will consider the reasonable needs and desires of the community and take responsibility for the coordination of community involvement and consultation.

How will the community be involved?

Community involvement is an integral part of the project.

A community liaison group (CLG) has been established to discuss project related matters including construction progress, urban design and landscaping plans, noise mitigation and environmental management.

Abigroup has also established traffic and transport, government agency and service authorities stakeholder groups to address communication and coordination with affected agencies and road user groups.

Discussions will continue throughout the project.

How will the community be kept informed?

Abigroup will keep the local community informed of the progress of the works, any traffic disruptions or controls, the construction of temporary detours and work required outside the advertised working hours.

Information will be provided to the Albury community in the following ways:

- 1800 674 934 toll free community information line.
- Community email address: albury@abigroup.com.au.
- Project display centre with design plans and other project information at the Abigroup site office on Dallinger Road.
- Project website updates: www.rta.nsw.gov.au/albury.
- Regular newsletters and advertisements explaining project and construction progress.
- Regular advice and roadside signage about temporary traffic management arrangements and proposed works.
- Letterbox notifications to nearby properties advising of work to be undertaken.
- Public site inspections.
- Presentations to local groups.

Who are the project stakeholders?

The key stakeholders and community groups include, but are not limited to:

- Directly affected, adjacent and nearby property owners;
- Road users and the traveling public.
- Business and community organisations;
- AlburyCity Council and staff representatives;
- Government authorities and agencies;

What kinds of issues are being raised?

Abigroup anticipates the main issues to be addressed during design and construction will include, but not be limited to:

- Traffic management and local access.
- Construction impacts including adjustments to existing infrastructure.
- Noise mitigation.
- Environment, social and visual amenity.

What about the environment?

Abigroup has prepared a Framework Environmental Management Plan, which is an overarching document for specific environmental plans in ten areas: air quality; flora and fauna; groundwater; heritage; noise and vibration; soil and water; spoil; stormwater; traffic and safety; and waste management and reuse.

Each plan outlines relevant issues and describes the actions to be taken to address those issues.

A range of government departments and agencies as well as the Albury and District Aboriginal Land, AlburyCity, and the RTA are responsible for reviewing these management plans.

How about the noise?

Abigroup is committed to working with the RTA to minimise the impact of the freeway on the local community. We understand that freeway aesthetics and traffic noise is a significant issue for the community, particularly in residential areas.

Noise barriers will be considered where traffic noise levels are predicted to exceed the target levels at houses in the surrounding areas.

Barriers may take the form of an earth mound or fences made of various materials. Where a barrier is not feasible or reasonable, it may be necessary to treat dwellings, such as installing double glazing, to reduce noise impact.

Information on proposed noise treatments and locations will be provided to the community liaison group and affected communities for information and discussion.

How will traffic be managed?

Traffic Control Plans address the movement of traffic through the project work sites.

Arrangements for traffic controls include:

- Traffic management for disruptions, delays, temporary detours, traffic switches.
- Effects on local traffic flows for heavy vehicles, transport operators, buses and coaches and emergency services.
- Access and impacts on pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and emergency vehicles.

Traffic Control Plans are used to inform the community about road closures and changes to traffic conditions.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on the project:

Phone toll free 1800 674 934

Email albury@abigroup.com.au

Log on to www.rta.nsw.gov.au/albury or

www.auslink.gov.au/projects/natnet/NSW/cnnh066.aspx

Visit the community display centre on Dallinger

Road, Monday to Friday from 9am - 5pm

(excluding public holidays).



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A member of Abigroup Limited