

Question on Notice

No. 1009

Asked on 5 June 2008

MR SEENEY asked the Minister for Main Roads and Local Government (MR PITT) -

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how many wide load permits were issued in the last two years and this year to date for escorted wide loads to travel on (a) Burnett Highway between Goomeri and Biloela, (b) the Dawson Highway between Gladstone and Biloela and (c) the Leichhardt Highway between Miles and Banana?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Callide for the question. In the recent State Budget, the Bligh Government has provided a significant boost to improve roads in the Bowen Basin region to further support Central Queensland's coal mining industry. Included in this funding package will be the realignment of the Dawson Highway at the Calliope range, which we will aim to complete by 2011. Another project to be undertaken on the Leichhardt Highway, between Blowhard Creek and the Baralba intersection will improve realignment and flood immunity. The expected completion date for this project is 2011.

The movement of wide loads on Queensland roads is managed through a co-operative arrangement between Queensland Transport, the Queensland Police Service and the Department of Main Roads.

The Department advises that loads up to 5.5m wide must comply with the requirements of the legislated guidelines for the movement of excess dimension vehicles and loads, namely:

- Form 4 – Guideline for excess dimension special purpose vehicles and vehicles carrying indivisible articles
- Form 6 – Guideline for excess dimension special purpose vehicles and vehicles carrying indivisible articles requiring pilots/escorts
- Form 7 – Guideline for pilot and escort vehicles and drivers.

The guidelines define the number of accredited pilots, accredited escorts or police officers accompanying a load dependent on the load dimensions and roads being used.

Approval from the Department of Main Roads is required for all movements wider than 4.6m and a permit issued by the Queensland Police Service is required for all loads wider than 5.5m.

Department of Main Roads, Queensland Transport and the Queensland Police Service work actively with the heavy haulage industry to ensure policies and procedures balance the safety of all road users with the operational needs of industry.

I am advised that information on the number of wide loads requiring permits has been obtained from the Main Roads Permit Management System, which manages the evaluation and permit issuing process for heavy and wide loads.

(a) Burnett Hwy (Roads 41B, 41C & 41D) between Goomeri and Biloela

In the recently announced \$16.2 billion five year Roads Implementation program, \$35.759m is allocated for works on the Burnett Highway. This include \$1.914m for works in 2008/2009.

Between Goomeri and Gayndah	Between Gayndah and Monto	Between Monto to Biloela
2006 – 61 loads 2007 – 51 loads 2008 – 71 loads	2006 – 1 load 2007 – 3 loads 2008 – 8 loads	2006 – 4 loads 2007 – 9 loads 2008 – 6 loads

(b) Dawson Hwy (Road 46A) between Gladstone and Biloela

From Bruce Hwy intersection to Callide Mine Access.	From Gladstone to Calliope.	Between Biloela and Callide Mine Access
2006 – no loads 2007 – no loads 2008 – 2 loads	2006 – 7 loads 2007 – 6 loads 2008 – no loads	2006 – 25 loads 2007 – 36 loads 2008 – 17 loads

The honourable member would be aware that in February this year, I had the pleasure of officially commissioning the \$91 million upgrade of Dawson Highway between Calliope and Banana. This upgrade which involved widening and strengthening 71km of the highway has brought significant benefits to Central Queensland, and was delivered six months ahead of schedule and under budget.

The Bligh Government's five year allocation in the RIP for works on the Dawson Highway is \$89.765M. Included in this figure is \$29.765M for works in 2008/2009.

(c) Leichhardt Hwy (Roads 26A and 26B) between Miles and Banana.

Loads traveling through Miles	Additional loads traveling only between Banana and Moura Mine access.
2006 – 205 loads 2007 – 66 loads 2008 – 36 loads	2006 – 123 loads 2007 – 175 loads 2008 – 37 loads

The five year allocation in the RIP for works on the Leichhardt Highway is \$74.798m. Included in this figure is \$3.758m for works in 2008/2009. The works program includes widening sections of pavement and intersection improvements.

QUESTION NUMBER: 1009
DOCTRAK REF: MBN9258

TABLE DATE: 7 July 2008

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APPROVED / NOT APPROVED		
Minister for Main Roads		
Comments		
Warren Pitt Minister for Main Roads	Senior Policy Advisor	Policy Advisor
/ /	/ /	/ /