



## Office of the Minister for Roads and Ports

- 5 FEB 2009

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PO Box 2797  
Melbourne, Victoria 3001  
Telephone: (03) 9655 6210  
Facsimile: (03) 9655 6651  
www.vic.gov.au  
DX 210410  
Our Ref:

DOI082190

Mr Russell S Mowatt  
President  
Calder Action Group  
4 Farrell Street  
NEW GISBORNE VIC 3438

Dear Mr Mowatt

I refer to your letter dated 31 December 2008, addressed to the Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas MP, making representations on behalf of the Calder Action Group, requesting the installation of street lights at various interchanges along the Calder Freeway. I am replying on behalf of the Minister.

The Brumby Government is taking action to improve the safety of our roads for all Victorian road users. We have seen Victoria record its six lowest road tolls over the past six years and the Government's new *arrive alive* road safety strategy aims to drive down the road toll by a further 30 per cent by 2017. As part of this strategy, the Government will invest \$650 million over ten years for road safety improvement projects.

I am advised that grade separated rural freeway interchanges, of which there are many throughout rural Victoria, are not normally lit unless specific safety requirements have been identified.

In relation to the sites you have listed in your letter, I am advised that there is no identified crash history related to night time driving at any of these locations.

The Bendigo bound exit ramp at the Edgecombe Street interchange has street lights due to the presence of the roundabout at the end of the ramp. The Malmsbury Interchange, opened in April 2008, has undergone extensive safety auditing (pre and post opening) which, I am advised by VicRoads, confirms that there are no safety matters that would require it to be lit.

On the basis of this information, there are no proposals to install any additional street lights at these locations.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, Mr Ewen Nevett, VicRoads' Project Director - Calder Corridor Project (Tel: 03 5422 0709), would be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

**Cressida Wall**  
Chief of Staff

