



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Woolgoolga to Ballina, Pacific Highway Upgrade

September 2017

The Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade is installing 24 electronic variable speed limit signs on a 3.5 kilometre section of the Pacific Highway south of Broadwater providing motorists with an improved driver experience through construction roadwork zones outside of work hours.

The variable speed limit signs will be used to increase the speed limit to 100km/h when it is safe to do so and reduce it when work is being carried out.

What are electronic variable speed limit signs?

Electronic variable speed limit signs (VSLS) are signs which allow the speed limit to be increased and decreased remotely depending on road conditions and the work being carried out.

Why do we need electronic variable speed limit signs?

We are installing the variable speed limit signs in temporary work zones to improve road users' journey experience, increase safety and manage the network.

Disruption to road users during the next three years will be higher because 62 percent of the Pacific Highway between Woolgoolga and Ballina is impacted by construction activities.

We understand temporary road work speed zones can be a source of frustration to our customers especially when it seems like there is no change in road conditions, the work site isn't active or it is after work hours.

What are the benefits of electronic variable speed limit signs?

Electronic variable speed limit signs can be changed remotely improving worker safety and reducing delays for motorists because traffic control does not need to be in place while signs are changed manually.

Variable speed limit signs improve traffic efficiency and reduce driver frustration by allowing the speed limit to be increased quickly and easily when it is safe to do so and clearly show visible speed signs in all weather conditions.



How do the signs get changed?

The signs are controlled by the Transport Management Centre in collaboration with Roads and Maritime Services, the Pacific Highway Project Office and Pacific Complete.

The variable speed limit signs will display road work speed limits of 60 or 80km/h during construction work hours. The speed will then be lifted once work is finished for the day.

The Grafton Traffic Control Room requests a change in the speed limit through the Sydney Traffic Operations Room which uses a sophisticated control system to set the required speed limit remotely.

How do I know what the speed limit is if the signs are not working?

A sign located at the start of the variable speed limit signs lets road users know the default speed limit is 80km/h.

Can I still be penalised for speeding in a variable speed limit zone?

The speed limits posted on the variable speed limit signs are enforceable by NSW Police.

Can I provide feedback about the electronic variable speed limit signs?

Yes, if you have noticed our variable speed limit signs and you would like to provide feedback, please complete our five minute survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W2B_VSLS.

For more information on this initiative or the project please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/W2B.

