

DR LIZ RICKMAN

18 BRENTWOOD AVE

BLACKHEATH 2785

APPLICATION NUMBER SSI-22004371

6th Feb 2023

Dear NSW Planning,

RE GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY UPGRADE

Firstly, Thank you for the proposal to bypass the Blackheath Village area and surrounding bushland with the current proposal of a tunnel. It will protect and save the historic village of Blackheath and the surrounding bushland, which is such an important recreational resource for the mental and physical health of the Sydney population.

However, I urge Dept of Planning to consider extending the tunnel to go from Katoomba.

As a medical practitioner in the area, and also in central Sydney, I am aware of the importance of this World Heritage of Bushland and its villages, being an enormous resource to the mental and physical health of the large and growing population of Sydney.

Its easy 1 day access from central Sydney makes it a major recreational ground for so many youth and older people. It is critical to maintain the peace and ambience of the Natural Environment as much as possible as research now shows the critical importance of green quiet space for maintaining and restoring mental and physical health.

The large train trucks that will now be on these roads will destroy that ambience and village environment as well as being serious increase hazard to pedestrians and village life.

Unless trains replace these large trucks, I urge for the safety and protection of this unique environment so close to a major city population, the tunnel be extended from Katoomba,

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Liz Rickman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Rickman', with a stylized flourish at the end.