

**Dinuka McKenzie - M5 West Widening- application number 10\_0052 Submission**

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**Date:** 5/23/2011 9:26 PM  
**Subject:** M5 West Widening- application number 10\_0052 Submission

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Dr Anita Bonic  
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Att: Director, Infrastructure Projects

To whom it may concern

**Submission RE: M5 West Widening- application number 10\_0052**

I am writing with three major concerns and 2 objections to the information provided in the submissions and preferred project report.

**The people of Liverpool Links Estate require noise barriers on the Georges River Bridge, Liverpool/Casula.**

This estate was established in the 1970's. What started off as a peaceful family estate has been increasingly eroded by careless planning with regard to noise pollution from the government's transport ministers over three decades. The windows of the residents of Liverpool Links Estate shake with vibrations from the traffic. It was not like that in the 1970s when they first moved there.

Looking around the Liverpool Links Estate, what is conspicuous are the trees and hills. The streets have nature-inspired names: Cypress Place, Deerwood Ave, Oakborne Road, Lakewood Crescent. The residents love their the unimpeded breezes on their hillside houses- that's why they chose to build their houses there as young families in the 1970s. They love nature. That's why they planted the trees. These people did not envision spending their home-bound retirement years being trapped behind double-glazed windows.

It cannot be denied that the people in this hillside area will be affected by an increase in noise from the increase in traffic over the M5 Georges River Bridge. They need noise barriers. Any other measures (window glazing etc...) would be discriminatory and immoral- just because a line is drawn does not lessen the suffering of the person on the wrong, inelligible side of the line. Noise barriers provide the most widely effective and moral solution.

Who lives in the Liverpool Links Estate? Established in the 1970s, many of the residents are European migrants. These people are now in their 60s, 70s, 80s. They are the people who started the Italian delis we all now all enjoy, or grow the figs that are now popular.

But they are not the type of people who write submissions- they are migrants with a workable but limited command of English, and they are pensioners, many of whom are computer illiterate. They are not the affluent or highly educated people you might encounter in the Northern or Eastern suburbs who are confident in writing letters and submissions.

Should the residents of the Liverpool Links Estate be discriminated against because they are migrants? Or because they are elderly? Just because these people don't write submissions should not make it easier for you to casually give the go-ahead to diminish the quality of their lives.

What do you wish for your grandmother? After years of working hard and paying taxes- she deserves to sleep in peace and open her windows at night to let the fresh air in without being bombarded by noise.

**The widening of the M5 west of King Georges Road to Camden Valley Way should be 4 lanes, not 3.**

In Melbourne, even with a smaller population than Sydney, their new motorways have 4 lanes each way. A wise government investment in the future.

When the M5 was originally built, it was already almost immediately inadequate for the needs of the people of South-West Sydney. It is absurd to see the government making the same mistake again. An aerial view of the traffic in peak hour would make it obvious that 3 lanes would be inadequate- for today's population and for tomorrow's population if growth along the South-West Sydney corridor continues. Why repeat the failings of previous governments? This is another short-sighted plan falling short of its potential for good. Twice in two decades- that's truly and sadly not fulfilling the mission of a government to care for its people.

It depends on what the mission of each person reading this submission is. Do you want your actions today to form part of a legacy that remains long after you are gone? What you do from 9am to 5pm has an impact on the world- whether it's being nice to your colleague at the desk next door, donating \$5 to Japan, or admitting and doing something about the fact that 3 lanes will not adequately service this population.

The glory of the people who built the M5 inadequately the 1<sup>st</sup> time around was very short lived. As humans, they just went to work, they left no legacy.

This is your job. You are responsible for your part. What will be your legacy? How did you use your time today to do what is ethical for the future? What actions give your day meaning and make you proud of your achievements?

**The purpose of work/ a job.**

The purpose of a job is to provide care and service to others. That is the way to lead a good life.

Would you allow a major motorway without noise barriers to be built next to your mother's or grandmother's place? Why are these human beings less worthy of your care? It seems to go against a natural sense of ethics and justice. To knowingly subject these people to major infrastructure changes without protection. It is your duty to protect humans. Do not stand by as a silent accomplice to harm.

If you go to bed knowing that your failure to act has resulted in a decrease in the ability of dozens of people to sleep at night, then would you be proud of your actions?

Every day of your life that you live from now till your death, the legacy of your time in this job would be noise, noise, noise, noise, noise for dozens of people. You contributed to human suffering. Is this the footprint on the earth you wish to leave?

Be caring. One day, you or your mother will be asking for someone else to understand your concern. A doctor, a receptionist, a minister.

When your job position gives you the ability to affect people's lives- then do good, not harm. It will make you feel proud of yourself. That is why we go to work. That is what makes us good people.

Thankyou for your consideration

Dr Anita Bonic