

Our reference : DDC06/33571  
Contact : Jasper Childs, 9995 6864

Ms Lisa Mitchell  
A/Director  
Department of Planning NSW  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Mitchell

**Lane Cove Tunnel – Proposed Modification to Condition of Approval 165**

I refer to your letter received by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) on 10 October 2006 regarding the proposed modification to Lane Cove Tunnel Condition of Approval 165.

DEC understands that the Lane Cove Tunnel is scheduled to open in early December. Therefore, the requirement of Condition of Approval 165 to collect background air quality data for a period of two years cannot be met.

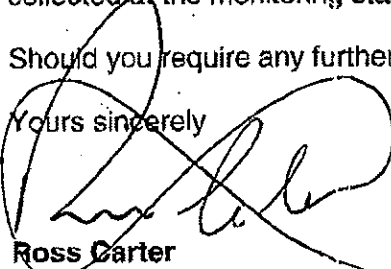
The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has subsequently made an application to the Department of Planning (DoP) to modify Condition of Approval 165. The proposed modification seeks to remove the requirement for two years of pre-opening monitoring and instead require sufficient data to be collected prior to opening to enable compliance with the intent of the relevant Conditions of Approval.

DEC has examined the application to modify Condition 165 and advises that DEC's *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW* stipulate that in order to account for background concentrations, ambient air monitoring data of at least one year of continuous monitoring must be obtained.

DEC recommends that DoP seek a final report from the RTA that includes all background data collected at the monitoring stations up until the tunnel is open to traffic.

Should you require any further information please contact Jasper Childs on 9995 6864.

Yours sincerely

  
25/10/06  
**Ross Carter**  
**Director Metropolitan**  
**Environmental Protection and Regulation**

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Department of **Environment and Conservation**