

To whom it may concern,

This is a formal submission regarding the proposed construction and development of the tunnel from Blackheath to Hartley.

We, Wayne and Jan Hatton, the undersigned owners of the property at 3 Evan's Lookout Road Blackheath NSW 2785 adamantly oppose the proposed construction of a tunnel. Listed below are points of consideration to support our opposition.

#### Consultation:

- This proposed construction will have many impacts on residents in the area and during the consultation period there has been little to no communication or consultation with effected residents. The communication has been minimal with no explicit explanation being made to the full extent of the effect this proposed construction will have on the environment and residents.
- There has been no notification to the true proximity and size of the tunnel fans and how this will immediately effect residents on Evans Lookout Road.
- There has been no personal connect by a representative to inform and discuss concerns and impacts, therefore not allowing us to express concerns with relevant information being provided to those concerns.
- There has been little communication in regard to the position, size and design of the tunnel including all relevant components including fans and surrounding building that are required. There has been no consultation to the impact personally and environmentally this will have.

#### Environmental impacts:

- Whilst I am not an expert in this area, the impact on the flora and fauna with the destruction of 23 hectares of natural landscapes will devastate the local area. Wildlife in the area will be highly impacted. Although it has been proposed that the site will be regenerated at the conclusion of the proposed construction, it will potentially never return to its original landscape.
- During construction, the air quality is expected to diminish. Added airborne particles including but not limited to dust, fumes and pollution from trucks and particles from the disturbance of land will create health concerns for residents with pre-existing breathing difficulties. These added airborne particles also present the possibility of creating potentially new health concerns for residents.
- As the proposed construction will be located within close proximity to our local water catchment area, water pollution is a major factor to consider.
- Run off from stockpile areas with unknown pollutants would contaminate the local catchment and residents water source.
- Potential water pollution from hard surfaces like roadways and car parks would increase with the increased volume of traffic. Pollutants such as motor oil, petrol, diesel, add blue, diff oil, transition oil, chemicals to clean vehicles are some of the potential contaminates that will increase and likely end up in our waterway.
- Transportation of mud and foreign materials onto the surrounding existing roads (including but not limited to Evans Lookout Road) with increase significantly, increasing the further risk of pollution to the local environment.
- There has been no indication or information provided on the air quality impact from the exhaust fan emissions and how this will affect the environment.
- The location of a mobile concrete plant and storage of raw concrete products will create pollutants as the runoff will drain into local water catchments and contaminate them.

#### Increased traffic and noise pollution:

- During construction, traffic movement in and around Evans Lookout Road will significantly increase. Increased volume of trucks coming and going from the site will impact access to properties.
- The construction of a car park to accommodate 100 vehicles indicated the large-scale increase of traffic that is expected in the area. During shift changes, cars will likely spill onto Evans Lookout Road, impacting residents access to and from their homes.

- Noise levels will significantly increase impacting local residents. Noise from construction and the increased volume of vehicles will increase significantly.
- Movement of large trucks with dogs, water tankers, cranes, flat bed delivery trucks and concrete trucks will significantly increase which will further increase congestion on local roads.

Aesthetics of the local area:

- Removing a large portion of natural environment will create an unpleasant and visually displeasing landscape.
- Permanent buildings to remain after the completion of the proposed construction will not fit with the local landscape.
- Local land and home values will significantly reduce with the close proximity of a construction that does not fit in the with natural landscape.

Personal effects:

- When we purchased our house, a main factor when we decided was the beauty of the natural landscape to surround the property. The area was quite and peaceful. By pursuing this proposed construction, this natural beauty will likely never be returned to its natural state.
- The ongoing noise, air and water pollution is an unacceptably factor to contend with during construction and well beyond completion.

In addition to the above-mentioned concerns, recently we applied for the approval of the construction of a 3 bay garage. We have been refused approval on the premise that the construction does not fit within the local landscape and the concern that the size of the garage will have a negative impact of the local environment include reduced water catchment area. The impact of one 3 bay garage is not comparable with the environmental impact of destroying 23 hectares of bushland to erect buildings and complete earth moving and groundwork to support a large volume of vehicle traffic. If this proposed construction is approved to commence, I request a representative to review our original application for the garage located on our property and for this application to be approved.

In conclusion, I believe there has been insignificant representation and information provided in regard to the impacts on both the environment and the local residents for this proposed development. We adamantly oppose the construction and request that appropriate measure be completed to inform residents of any further developments in this matter be made to allow for residents to express relevant concerns.

We look forward to discussing this matter further,

Regards

Wayne and Jan Hatton

3 Evans Lookout Rd, Blackheath, NSW 2785