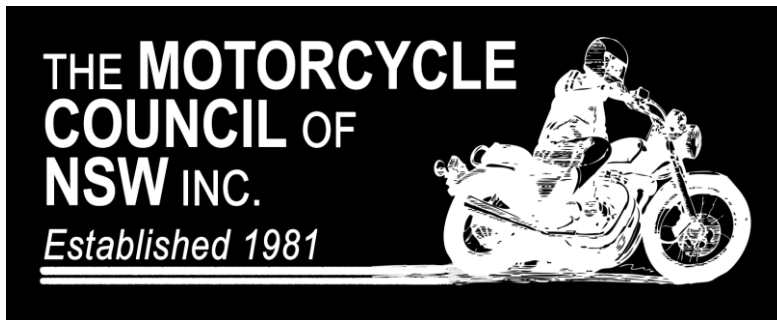


Upgrade of the Great Western Highway between Blackheath and Little Hartley

Environmental Impact Statement

February 2023



Submission to:-
Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning and Environment

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About The Motorcycle Council of NSW

The Motorcycle Council of NSW Inc. (MCC) is an internationally recognised umbrella group for motorcycle clubs, associations and ride groups, in the state of New South Wales.

Established in 1981, the MCC is recognised as the peak motorcycle representative body in NSW and Subject Matter Experts on many complex issues dealing with motorcycling including crash data and statistics, traffic data and congestion information.

The MCC has published documentation that has been referenced worldwide by overseas motorcycling and traffic bodies and has produced video training films that have been utilised and referred to by many overseas trainers, researchers and ride associations.

MCC is the peak representative body for motorcycling in the state of NSW representing over 60 motorcycle clubs, which have a total membership of over 41,000 motorcyclists.

We wish to thank the Department of Planning and Environment for the opportunity to present this submission and the views of our member clubs on the environmental impact of the proposed Upgrade of the Great Western Highway between Blackheath and Little Hartley.

Should you require further information on the information contained within this submission please contact the MCC.

Brian Wood

Secretary

The Motorcycle of NSW wishes to make the following comment:-

While it is yet to be determined what the emission levels will be within the tunnel in emergency and congested conditions, the MCC is concerned that the health of motorcyclists needs to be adequately taken into consideration.

In many tunnels the advice when emissions levels are high are for motorists to adjust the ventilation systems of their vehicles, however this is not an option for motorcyclists.

In the EIS for the Beaches Link project there was the following comment:-

“Individuals using motorbikes would not have the opportunity to reduce exposure inside the tunnel through the use of vehicle ventilation controls. However, the time spent inside tunnels under congested conditions would be less than other users given their ability to lane filter during heavy traffic.”

However, motorcyclists on learner and provisional licences are not permitted to lane filter. These motorcyclists will need to be given special dispensation to lane filter in tunnels.

Motorcycles with sidecars and other 3 wheeled motorcycles that are not able to lane filter, will need to be given special dispensation to use the shoulder in the tunnels.

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