OBJECTION to proposed Sky Safari, Taronga Zoo by Michael Mangold 10/6/25

Taronga Zoo Sky Safari set to be *unforgettable*

Never truer words said; the new super-duper Sky Safari open-cut data mine will be *unforgettable*. It will deface one of Sydney Harbour's steepest and most visible topographic features. It will be illuminated at night and its cables and cogs will grind out low frequency long distance low absorption sound waves continuously, aided by water's high conductivity.



Sydney's first open-cut visitor data mining operation.

An open-cut data mine is exactly what the new super-duper Sky Safari will be, scarring the landscape and dominating the skyline at the height of a 10 storey building way above the treeline and Bradley's Head ridge. It will cycle through its processing of tourists and their data as relentlessly as an automated coal or iron ore mine.

Wrapped in animal conservation, veterinary hospitals and training the proposed super-duper Sky Safari is an environmentally disastrous and politically expedient money-making machine designed to turn visitor data into dollar-driven sales targets formulated by Destination NSW and the zoo's executive with their careers, KPIs, salaries and bonuses top of mind.

Google's AI overview says the 'zoo's site was originally a portion of Ashton Park' and that it is 'a case study for understanding environmental changes and management.' The 'Park' in Taronga Park Zoo disappeared long ago as did transparency in the zoo executive's plans for its future.

Taronga Zoo is a well-resourced multi-faceted commercial enterprise located on Crown Land and yet its documentation of the proposed Sky Safari is opaque with precious little and tightly controlled scope for genuine community consultation.

There is no recognition of responsibilities to Indigenous people past, present or future in the proposal for the super-duper Sky Safari or any realistic costings or assessment of the enduring negative effects on natural and built environments, Sydney Harbour Heritage, including the context of World Heritage Listings such as the Sydney Opera House or the value and amenity of residental properties lining Sydney Harbour.

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