

21 Waterloo St  
Rozelle 2039  
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29/03/2020

Director, Transport Assessments  
Planning and Assessment,  
Department of Planning Industry and Environment  
Locked back 5022,  
Parramatta NSW 2124

**Re. Western Harbour Tunnel Proposal. Application SSI-8863**

We are writing to lodge a submission in objection to the Western Harbour Tunnel Proposal

Based on the published EIS, we feel we will be heavily impacted by the current proposal. Site drawings show that the acoustic shed will border the south-east side of our property, with acoustic fencing bordering the north-east side. Based on other examples of acoustic sheds in use by the WestConnex Project, eg; the Rozelle Railyards and Parramatta Rd Five Dock, the estimated height of the shed will be overwhelming in respect to our current amenity, and will impact our ability to utilise our backyard as a liveable space.

We are also concerned that the height of the adjacent acoustic shed will introduce additional issues with air flow hitting the shed, funnelling down and introducing increased ground level wind speeds, decreasing the amenity of the outdoor living space, particularly in the case of hot westerly winds.

B Double trucks removing spoil from the site will be exiting the shed directly behind my daughter's bedroom located in the studio at the rear of our property. While we understand that you will be erecting acoustic fencing, this will not eliminate noise, vibration and diesel particulates from the trucks both idling and moving during egress from the site. The risk to our health from such close exposure to diesel particulates, particularly in the case of an Easterly wind include:

*Short-term (Acute) effects Short term exposure to high concentrations of diesel exhaust can irritate the eyes, nose, throat and lungs and cause light-headedness, coughing, phlegm and nausea. Very high levels of diesel exhaust exposure can lead to asphyxiation from carbon monoxide poisoning.*

*Long-term (Chronic) effects Long term exposure can worsen asthma and allergies and increase the risk of heart and lung disease. Diesel engine exhaust emissions contain many known carcinogenic substances, for example PAHs adhere to the surface of the DPM. DPM is easily inhaled into the respiratory tract and there is epidemiological evidence which indicates ongoing exposure to diesel exhaust emissions may result in an increase in the risk of lung cancer.<sup>1</sup>*

WHS information regarding of management of diesel particulates states

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<sup>1</sup> Guide to Managing Risks of Exposure to Diesel Exhaust in the Workplace. Safe Work Australia

*A person conducting a business or undertaking has the primary duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, workers and other people are not exposed to health and safety risks arising from the business or undertaking. This duty includes eliminating exposure to diesel exhaust, so far as is reasonably practicable, for example by using alternative power sources. If it is not reasonably practicable to do so, then risks must be minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.<sup>2</sup>*

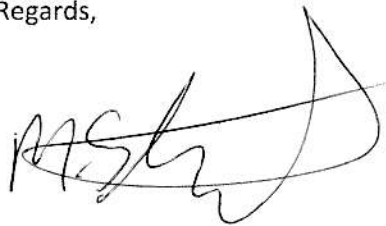
Reasonable risk minimisation for this situation should be nothing less than enclosing the entire truck exit route from the acoustic shed to the point of entrance on Victoria Road.

Another concern is that our son has autism. He spends a fair bit of time at home and has high sensitivity to his environment. While there is an expectation that the acoustic shed and fencing will reduce the ambient noise levels, we are still concerned that any noise and vibration generated directly on the boundary of our property will have an adverse affect on him, introducing additional stress into the household.

If it is feasible from a design perspective, we would request that the acoustic shed boundary be relocated to the south-east side of the current boundary to 17 Waterloo St. This would introduce what we believe would be a more suitable buffer between our property and the proposed dive site.

Given the current situation regarding CVOID-19, we would ideally like to see the project scrapped altogether and the allocated funds redirected to ensuring the viability and sustainability of the NSW economy through community and business support initiatives.

Regards,



Mick Steele



Robyn Steele

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<sup>2</sup> Guide to Managing Risks of Exposure to Diesel Exhaust in the Workplace. Safe Work Australia