

1501/183 Kent Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000  
28 September 2015

Acting Director-Key Site Assessments  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

**Exhibition of State Significant Development Application (SSD 6617) Remediation part of Hickson Road Barangaroo**

We are somewhat overwhelmed by the quick succession of Development Applications related to the Barangaroo site especially when earlier applications are still to be determined and may well impact the others. As lay people we struggle to absorb much of the detail of each DA and have to hope that our submissions are constructive and successfully convey our concerns.

We are residents of the Stamford on Kent building located on the corner of Kent Street and Gas Lane. Our apartment is located on the western side and at the southern end of the building and overlooks Jenkins Street to the Barangaroo site. We have been residents of Stamford on Kent since mid 2001 (first living in apartment 1205) and have lived there during the operation of the container port and the then overseas passenger terminal prior to its relocation, as a temporary terminal further north on the Barangaroo site. The operation of the container port and the then existing overseas passenger terminal did not pose noise issues for us.

We continue, in principle to be supporters of the re-development of the old wharf site and very much admire the design aspects of what Lend Lease has built to date. However, we have grave concerns about the ongoing works on the site particularly regarding noise, air quality, contaminants and how they are managed.

- **Air Quality**

In the event of pollutants or dangerous vapours escaping into the air there appears to be no emergency warning system in place that could warn the local community to remain indoors/close doors and windows or in fact to evacuate people who may be present in a determined risk area. Although unlikely but not impossible, if a catastrophe occurred on site which enabled dangerous vapours to escape a warning system (i.e. special sound alarm) would assist the local community in taking protective action.

- **Construction Noise & Vibration**

Our concerns regarding Noise and Vibration for SSD6617 remain unchanged from our submission to SSD6533. Specifically, that there is no mention that the noise assessments undertaken have considered low frequency noise, which we recognise as a special environmental noise issue. According to the contents of the Construction Noise and Vibration Assessment Report (Appendix R) related to this SSD we see that no testing has been undertaken that would relate to low frequency noise or that testing has occurred at the elevated area east of Hickson Road and close to our building. We note reference to the fact that unmitigated night time works may exceed compliant levels at the residential receivers in Hickson Road and the recommendations made to reduce the levels. However, the equipment and noise mitigation measures are yet to be determined. It is

paramount that the impact of overnight low frequency noise is factored into any decisions made on the noise mitigation measures and choice of equipment.

We speak from first-hand experience that the use of self powered lights/generators has been detrimental to the acoustic amenity for ourselves and the surrounding residences. There have been a number of occasions when we have had to complain to Lend Lease of overnight noise from equipment such as generators and self powered lights. Although we commend Lend Lease for their understanding and prompt responses to resolve the noise issues reported, the fact remains that had adequate measures already been in place our amenity would not have been affected.

As a further demonstration of the effect of low frequency noise we can attest to suffering significant sleep deprivation during the operation of the temporary cruise terminal (Barangaroo Central Area near Block 5) when the majority of the mains powered light towers were replaced with lighting units using power generators. These lights were operational each morning of a ship arrival (early hours) and not turned off until usually after 6.15am. We struggled with this disturbance on and off from November 2010 until mains power was re-connected to that part of the site in April 2011.

We remain fearful that equipment operational overnight during remediation/construction such as pumps, generators and fans may result in low frequency noise penetrating our bedroom and therefore again cause us significant sleep deprivation.

In the interests of "live and help live" we on our own initiative took measures to sound proof our bedroom window prior to Lend Lease commencing excavation and construction on the old wharf site (Barangaroo South). We have since further insulated the door from our bedroom to the balcony, but these measures are not entirely effective against low frequency noise.

In general we are not objecting to the remediation/excavation or in fact the noise that may occur during the week day-light hours but ask that our concerns over low frequency noise during sleep hours are taken seriously and given appropriate consideration when determining this application.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D.L. Sketch', followed by a long, horizontal, wavy line that extends across the page.

David and Lorraine Sketch