

**Diane Sarkies - Northwest Rail Link - Application number SSI-5414**

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**Date:** 1/12/2012 5:14 PM  
**Subject:** Northwest Rail Link - Application number SSI-5414

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We wish to lodge comments (objections) on the Northwest Rail Link - Application number SSI-5414

We feel that commuters who live on the Northern line north of Epping have been completely overlooked and/or their needs disregarded.

The existing direct rail service from Hornsby via Strathfield was removed when the Epping to Chatswood link was completed. The new link, however, provided a direct service to the city via Chatswood and the North Shore line, without the need to change trains.

We object to the removal of a direct weekday 1/4 hour train service from Hornsby to the City via Epping as proposed because of the Northwest rail link. Its replacement with a service that requires two changes (Epping and Chatswood) is unacceptable.

The alternative would be provision of a 1/4 hourly service from Beecroft to the City via Strathfield without the need to change trains at Epping, but this runs counter to the existing greater network flexibility provided by the diversion of most of the Northern line via Chatswood.

We object to the failure to integrate the Northwest link with the existing rail infrastructure and rolling stock. The decision to privately fund the Northwest link should not necessitate compromising the existing integrated network. This shortsighted decision is the reason for the degradation of our service and is likely to limit future functionality of the whole system.

We object to the added congestion on the network anticipated as a result of the current Northwest link proposal, and additionally the failure to provide an expanded Harbour rail crossing, and to complete the Parramatta to Epping link.

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