

**Diane Sarkies - North West Rail Link - Application Number SSI-5414**

---

**From:** "David Leece" <david.leece@bigpond.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 3/12/2012 2:14 PM  
**Subject:** North West Rail Link - Application Number SSI-5414

---

We have reviewed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Environmental Impact Statement (EIS2) for the above development proposal.

While we agree that the North West Rail Link (NWRL) is a vital piece of transport infrastructure for Sydney, we have several concerns about the proposal as presented in EIS2.

1. We strongly oppose its development as a metro line that will not be able to fully integrate into the existing city rail network. To develop it this way would be extraordinarily short-sighted and would cut off options for future generations. It is essential that the tunnels be built large enough for current double-deck trains to allow its integration into the current rail system.
2. It would be unacceptable to integrate the new line into the existing system in a manner that would offer an inferior service to commuters using the Northern Rail Line from Hornsby to the City via Macquarie Park and Chatswood. At present, such commuters do not have to change trains. EIS2 proposes that these commuters be required to change trains twice – at Epping from a conventional service to a metro service; and at Chatswood from a metro service to a second conventional service. The current system, which permits a commuter to join a conventional service and remain on it until they reach their destination without having to change trains, must be retained.
3. While we do not object to metro services *per se* where appropriate *i.e.* on short, high-density inner-city services (e.g. Strathfield to the City), we consider that the NWRL is not such a service. It is far too long and would present considerable difficulties especially for the elderly, infirm and disabled, numbers of whom inevitably would find that they had to stand for extended periods of the journey to and from Chatswood.

Please register our strong objections to these aspects of the proposal.

Dr D. R. Leece and Mrs Priscilla A. Leece  
10A Chapman Avenue  
Beecroft NSW 2119  
T: (02)9484 8456