

Anita Levy
7 / 25 Bowman Street
PYRMONT N.S.W. 2009

29 April 2018

Mr Ben Lusher
Director – Key Site Assessments
Planning Services,
Department of Planning and Environment,
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY 2001

Dear Mr Lusher

Re: SSD 8544 - Glebe Island Aggregate Handling & Concrete Batching Facility

This is to record my strong objection to the proposed Hanson concrete plant on Glebe Island.

As a retired Architect, there are a number of reasons for my objection: -

1. The two Hanson concrete plants near where we live already create noise and dust, and they are both much smaller than the proposed plant. One is near the Fish Market, and the other, a Hymix plant, is at 1A Bridge Road in Glebe. When we walk past those plants there is a great deal of noise, and the Bridge Road plant especially creates fine choking dust.
2. The proposal will permit ships to be docked there and unload sand, cement and gravel 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The ships run their engines all day and all night, and that creates a low level throbbing noise which is very disturbing and we cannot sleep properly. Nights with little sleep are not only bad for us physically, they are bad for our mental state. No batching plant has the right to operate in a way which damages our health. There is little in the EIS about noise – in fact I am very concerned that it does not show the plant will operate within EPA guidelines, so I expect it will exceed them. This must not be permitted.
3. When we drive over Anzac Bridge and along the surrounding streets there are already a great number of large trucks day and night causing significant traffic congestion. The proposed plant will only add to that and traffic will become impossible. The EIS seems to make light of the extra truck movement, and I suspect whoever wrote it was biased and “turned a blind eye” to this aspect of the plant.
4. From our living room and balcony, we can clearly see the proposed site. It cannot be more than about 200 metres away. The noise and the dust will immediately affect us and our health. More than that, the emissions from ship’s engines as they burn their very low-quality bunker fuel will be damaging to our health and to the health of all other residents in this very densely populated area.
5. We also see clearly the shipping congestion when any of the larger ships are docked opposite us at the proposed location. There are many large and small craft moored in Blackwattle bay. As they pass under the Anzac bridge they have to pass through a very narrow channel. There is insufficient space for all those commercial and pleasure craft when large ships are unloading. This is an accident waiting to happen. If anyone is injured, or anyone dies as a result of a marine accident here, the responsibility will lie directly with those who approve this unsuitable development.

6. All the housing developments and landscaping around this area have added to the visual appeal and quality of living here. The proposed building is a monstrous box, far too large for the area, and it will make this start to look again like a very badly designed industrial site. If we have to have factories here we could at least make them look appealing, not revert to the ugly box designs used decades ago.

7. I understand there is a Bays Precinct plan, a Fish Market redevelopment plan, a White Bay plan, and various other design plans for the area. It beggars belief to think that this ugly, noisy, polluting cement plant could align with the design objectives of any of those plans. In fact it would take the area backwards by about 50 years.

8. This proposal wants Glebe Island, Pyrmont and surrounding areas to revert to an industrial area instead of the pleasant residential area it has already become. Surely the various design and development plans previously published by the NSW Government over the past decade are not being followed or met by this development? The onus is on the Hanson people to show us how it complies with all those design standards and principles, which I am willing to bet they cannot do.

If you wish to contact me I would be happy to discuss my objections personally.

Yours Sincerely

Anita Levy B. Arch (retired)