12 May 2018

Proposed Hanson's Concrete Batching Plant, Glebe Island

I wish to object to the proposed Hanson concrete facility and associated shipping terminal at Glebe Island.

The Jacksons Landing precinct has become Sydney's second most dense residential suburb, the closest residential buildings are located 150 metres opposite this proposed development. In its current form, the Hanson proposal represents a significant intensification of industrial activities which will have significant impacts on adjacent communities and is at odds with what has been communicated regarding development of the Bays Precinct.

I am concerned that the current proposal fails to address this context and has a number of serious flaws:

Noise

The intensification of industrial activities at Glebe Island will increase levels of noise for people living at Jackson's Landing and Bowman Street. The proposed 24/7 operation without shore to ship power will result in a continuous level of noise that will be detrimental to the residents resulting in sleep deprivation and associated health conditions. Recent night time noise level measurements from similar berthing activities at Glebe Island are well above EPA levels.

Noise levels have been assessed as acceptable when Pyrmont residents keep windows and doors closed. It is unacceptable to expect Pyrmont residents to keep windows and doors closed and give up the use of their outdoor balconies

Lighting

There are no restrictions on the use of lights on the ships nor Glebe Island. The environmental impact statement states that ships would be berthed two to three times a week for 12 hours at a time.

Whilst some land based loading and unloading will occur within an enclosure that will contain noise and dust, clear restrictions are required at night on activities that are not within the enclosure. Impacts like reverse beeping and compression brakes from entering and exiting the site can result in significant disturbance and are not appropriate at night given the residential impacts.

Dust Pollution

The unloading of ships carrying thousands of tonnes of sand means that fine dust particles would be blown across the surrounding areas. I high winds this will be made worse because it is proposed that the truck waiting areas will be uncovered.

24-Hour Operations

I strongly oppose the proposal that ships berth at the port 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This will result in significant sleep disturbance for a large number of people. Ships have no access to shore power so must operate their engines at all times to generate their own power. This constant "hum" is experienced when the odd ship uses the berth at present. With many multiple storey residences located within 150 metres this proposed batching facility is simply not in an appropriate location.

Air Quality

The Jacksons Landing area has witnessed an increase in air borne particulates in the last 12 months. Ship fuel emissions, dry concrete and aggregate dust, and truck exhaust are major concerns for residents. The primary air emissions have been identified as particulates, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, which are known hazards.

Traffic

The figures quoted by Hanson about the number of trucks being taken off the road is misleading. Approximately 3500 truck trips per day will result from this proposal. The surrounding roads will be choked even further especially with trucks exiting from James Craig Drive and The Crescent onto ANZAC Bridge

Bays Precinct

The proposed development is inconsistent with what was envisaged in the 2000 Master Plan. The area is no longer an industrial site and has been developed accordingly. It has become a tourist destination.

Public Waterway

With increasing marine traffic coming and going into Blackwattle Bay the berthing of one or two ships with tugs is going to make the channel even more difficult and dangerous. It is a hazardous entrance and exit to Blackwattle Bay at the best of times, having these large ships docked will escalate the congestion and possibility of a marine accident.

There are large numbers of residents in this region and it is the government's responsibility to ensure development at Glebe Island does not impact on residents' health, wellbeing and amenity.

I ask that you not support the application.

Kind regards

John Webster

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