

E-mail Message

From: Sue Smith [SMTP:wattlelea@gmail.com]
To: Public Goward's Office Email [EX:/O=MIN/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=5AC6AD7B09FE1A48808B23FEDCEF8244-000000059ADC]
Cc:
Sent: 5/8/2014 at 11:56 AM
Received: 5/8/2014 at 11:56 AM
Subject: NorthConnex tunnel and pollution stack

Attachments: MO Corro Action Sheet electronic.doc

Dear Ms Goward,

I am writing to express my very big concern with the proposed M1-M2 tunnel extension.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to build something which really will benefit not only the whole NSW State but also the environment and local residents. The proposed plan is being "Railroaded" through with little or no thought of the impact it will have on residents living close to the present M1 or Pennant Hills Road. The Environmental Impact Statement does not ally any concerns we previously held about air quality and noise, nor does it, in the longer term fix any local road congestion.

I live in Bareena Avenue and at no time was I consulted about where the tunnel portals or smoke stacks would be. I have tried, as best I can, to read the earlier proposals, 2001 and 2004, but no where in them can I find the name Bareena Avenue mentioned. I have been disenfranchised and this plan is being pushed through with no consultation. Meetings held for residents have been "going through the motions" affairs, where we have been told what is going to happen. The Air-Quality forum was a farce [REDACTED] and flaws exposed in the report. A letter from NorthConnex advises us that our property has been identified in the EIS as potentially qualifying for individual property noise treatment. You can imagine how thrilled I was to receive that and wonder what that could mean. Cotton wool balls perhaps?

It looks like the shortest and cheapest option has been selected and come hell or high water, that is what is going to be built. There appears to have been no forward planning, or alternatives looked at and now suddenly we are at the 11th hour.

I urgently therefore request, that you look at and seriously consider the Equilibria Proposal. This proposes the tunnel be extended by approximately 2km north of Pacific Highway making the tunnel about 1km longer than the proposed Transurban tunnel. Approximately 2km of the then redundant M1 could be rezoned for further substantial urban development. The benefits of this are too numerous to list here but the obvious one is the pollution stack would be located in an industrial area and not next to residents houses, schools and hospitals, which would allow for a greater community acceptance. The reclaimed land from the M1 would be a massive bonus for the NSW government, with the ability to sell the land to developers thereby funding the extra cost of the tunnel extension and also making land available for 2000 more dwellings, all within walking distance of the Wahroonga and Waitara train stations. Isn't this what the NSW government wants, more housing?

This is a forward looking exciting plan, that takes into account the local environs (not happening with the present proposal), a design that will benefit the NSW government and their quest for more housing (not happening with the

present one), less pollution around dense housing areas, schools and hospitals (not happening with the present one) less disruption to residents during construction (not happening with the present one) and a better long term outcome for less congestion along Pennant Hills Road (not happening with the present one), plus it is more cost effective and simply makes more sense!

No amount of glossy brochures from Transurban or the NSW Government will convince me that the air quality will be okay, that noise barriers will be effective (you should come and look what we have at the bottom of our street now which masquerades as a noise barrier) as the one thing they will cut corners with is "Noise", when they start telling us the project has gone "over budget", and it will. Nor will it convince me that that the 5000 trucks using the tunnel will all be post 2013 trucks with less pollution, that claim is rubbish. And while all this is happening with no consultation with the local residents, the disruption to our lives and environment will be immense.

This is an opportunity for the NSW government to build something great, a plan that will take NSW into the future not just to the next election. Please, I implore you, take a look at the alternatives and the Equilibria Proposal is a good place to start.

Yours sincerely

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