

9 September 2014

Director - Infrastructure Projects  
 Department of Planning and Environment  
 Number: SSI 13\_6136  
 Major Projects Assessment  
 GPO Box 39  
 SYDNEY NSW 2001

**NorthConnex Application Number: SSI 13\_6136**

Please find below my submission in response to the exhibition of the EIS for NorthConnex.

Firstly I would like to state we object to the project as described in the EIS. We live in Boltan Grange, 21 Lucinda Ave. Wahroonga, a property contains 4,870 m<sup>2</sup> heritage listed garden and a house which was originally built in 1929. We have a 12-year-old son, Nicholas who is currently attending Knox Grammar School. The proposed northern interchange portal will be going through right under our property less than 18 meters underground. And a construction compound used for the whole construction will be established at the rear of our property for the period between 2015 and 2018.

I have a high level of concern regarding the following issues and request that these be considered by NorthConnex and the Department of Planning. In regards to the NorthConnex tunnel, I am concerned about:

1. The excessive noise and dust caused by heavy vehicles 24/7 entering and exiting to/from the tunnel construction site which will be built at rear of our property between 2015 and 2018. NorthConnex estimates 1440 heavy vehicle and 200 light vehicle movements per day during the tunneling work.
2. Dust and pollution from the tunnel construction will have negative impact on my son's health who is suffering from asthma and dust allergy.
3. The vegetation on the construction site built for the tunnel work is to be cleared for building construction compound. The site currently contains large trees such as blue gums that are prohibited from removal by Ku Ring Gai council.
4. Potential damages and excessive devaluation caused to our property due to a tunnel entry/exit built less than 18 meters underground from our property. Our property "Boltan Grange" was built in 1929 on over 4,800 square meter land with a council listed heritage garden. An underground tunnel portal entry/exit and a construction site at the rear house for more than four (2015-2018) years. And with the uncertainty of usage of the construction land after the construction will lead to excessive loss of property value.
5. Placement of the northern ventilation stack in the centre of a densely populated residential area in Wahroonga, where 9,300 school children including our son

## **NorthConnex EIS Submission**

will be exposed, as well as multiple aged care facilities, hospitals, businesses and homes.

To address my concerns I request that the following actions are undertaken:

1. An independent assessment is undertaken to assess the noise and dust impact from the construction site on our property.
2. Adequate noise and dust control measurement is put in place by NorthConnex to minimize the negative impact
3. An independent assessment is undertaken to assess the environmental, economical impact on the properties affected directly by the tunnel construction work.
4. The air quality and human health impact assessment need to be revised to address the issues raised above.
5. An independent options assessment process should be undertaken to assess alternative locations for the ventilation stack and portals.
6. A long term asthma and allergy management plan is in place for my son whose health will be negatively impacted by dust and pollutions.
7. A comprehensive air quality monitoring program is developed and implemented.
8. An independent review of the ventilation system is undertaken to ensure that NorthConnex's claim of no portal emissions is justified.
9. The Submissions Report/Preferred Project be exhibited to allow the community to respond to the revised information contained in the report.
10. The Department does not approve the project in its current form as it clearly does not meet the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development as required by the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

**Hong Zhu**

**21 Lucinda Ave. Wahroonga. NSW 2076**