

10 September 2014

Director-Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning and Environment
No: SSI13_6136
Major Projects Assessment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email:

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=6136

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Northconnex Application No. SSI_6136

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

Firstly I state that I object to the project as described in the EIS.

I am writing in reference to the NorthConnex Proposal, the relevant EIS and the NorthConnex Air Quality Forum at the Hornsby RSL on July 29 2014.

I live in Wahroonga and would be directly affected by the pollutants emitted from the proposed tunnel emissions stack mooted for Bareena Avenue.

There must be some mistake! The design for the proposed tunnel is short at the Wahroonga end, by a kilometre or so, of a level entry/exit point. This is just plain stupid. A more level entry would help the proposed tunnel better resemble the 'best practice design' which is touted in the discussions about the proposal. If the entry/exit were redesigned to eliminate gradient, vehicles exiting the tunnel would not have to change gears to climb out of the tunnel and those entering would not have to use heavy braking as they descend into it. Please move the entry/exits North by that small distance.

Effective, monitored filtration of the stacks at both ends of the tunnel is essential.

It is unreasonable to take nine kilometres of traffic pollutants and belch them out into the centre of a densely populated suburban community which is also the home to dozens of schools and a number of hospitals.

The recent Independent Forum on Health Impacts of Air Pollution held at Barker College on 4 September 2014 ("the Independent Forum")(which I also attended) examined the health risks posed to our community as a result of the proposed dumping within it of concentrated vehicle emissions. The health risks are real and documented in the medical literature. You have obligations, as our elected

representatives, to safeguard the health of our community or at the very least not make decisions likely to damage it! If the proposal proceeds in its current form and in the face of serious and reasonable community objections, the State of NSW is likely to be the subject of legal action arising from injury and damage caused to local residents.

I object to the deliberately misleading assertions repeatedly made by the Northconnex team and repeated recently by the Premier, the Honourable Mike Baird that "The air quality in Sydney will be improved by the Northconnex tunnel". That statement may be true, HOWEVER, it is not fair or reasonable that residents of Wahroonga and Pennant Hills should have serious and deleterious health impacts as a consequence. Public health does not have to be and must not be sacrificed in the interests of saving a few dollars. The Northconnex tunnel, if it proceeds, will be used for generations to come.

Finally and also in relation to the Independent Forum I note that the data for assumed weather conditions in the vicinity of the proposed Wahroonga and Pennant Hills exhaust stacks was taken at weather monitoring stations located as far away as Terry Hills and Sydney Airport. At the Independent Forum it was demonstrated that the actual weather conditions within the local areas of Wahroonga and Pennant Hills are significantly different to the conditions in the Northconnex EIS. In fact wind conditions in Wahroonga and Pennant Hills are extremely benign and unlikely to promote the dispersion of the POLLUTION PLUME in any way that resembles the way the proponents of the proposed Northconnex tunnel have stated. The pollution is likely to be dumped virtually in its entirety upon the residents of those areas.

I object to the project as described in the EIS.

