

12 September 2014

Director – Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning and Environment
Major Projects Assessment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission in response to the exhibition of the EIS for NorthConnex (SSI 13_6136)

We **object** to the project as described in the EIS on the following grounds -

- 1 There are significant health risks from air pollution caused by vehicles especially from ultrafine particles (refer “Health impacts of air pollution in the Sydney basin” issued by the General Standing Committee No 2 of the NSW Legislative Council on 16 November 2006 and submission by Asthma Foundation NSW to this inquiry on 4 August 2006).
- 2 We believe that the modelling used to assess the environmental impact of the NorthConnex proposal is deficient in that it does not adequately address the dangers from the air pollution, in particular from ultrafine particles. In addition we believe the modelling does not adequately consider the effect of increased traffic volumes which will be induced by the NorthConnex proposal which will generate increased air pollution.
- 3 The proposed location of the northern ventilation stack at Wahroonga near a residential area, a number of schools, nursing and disability homes and a hospital is inappropriate given that children, elderly and sick persons are particularly at risk from air pollution. It is also proposed to be located in a valley which will reduce dispersion and increase

deposition of particulate matter in immediate surrounds. In addition the contract with the proponent for the NorthConnex proposal should provide for the possibility of future upgrading of the ventilation system as technology in this area is improved with this to be paid for by the NSW Government. It is requested the northern ventilation stack at Wahroonga be –

- A moved away from residential areas and away from the schools, nursing homes and the hospital to the maximum extent possible
 - B that it be filtered
 - C not located in a valley but rather a ridge
- 4 It is requested that the NSW State Government consider and plan for additional and enhanced public transport options across Sydney and give priority to public transport options over road in future transport planning for Sydney so as to reduce the environmental impact of vehicle use over the longer term and plan for a future where petrol will be expensive/scare. It is to be hoped that the contract with the proponent for the NorthConnex proposal allows for public transport to be upgraded in the surrounding transport corridor in the future.
- 5 We strongly support the submission made by Community Against Polluting Stacks. We think the smoke stack should be moved at least 2 KM away from the school and residential area in Wahroonga.

Yours faithfully

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