

The Director – Infrastructure Projects
Department of Planning and Environment
Number : SSI 13_6136
Major Projects Assessment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

12 September 2014

Northconnex Application Number : SSI 13_6136 - SUBMISSION

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

I object to the Northconnex tunnel in its current form and as described in the EIS, on the following basis :

1. I believe the tunnel emissions should be **filtered**. There are only 2 emission stacks and it is the longest tunnel yet in Australia. I am concerned about studies showing that particulate matter can have adverse health impacts.
 2. The process used for air quality, in much smaller tunnels, has not always been successful and Northconnex is now proposing that this be approximately three times the existing length with no apparent improvement in technology ie filtration.
 3. Current work and evidence to date has not identified specifically how the seasonal climate, air movement and topography particular to Wahroonga, would affect the dispersion from the emission stacks. There has been no mention of air inversions and how they affect the dispersion of the particulate matter at Wahroonga.
 4. The air at Wahroonga in winter is **STILL** and icy. The prevalent air movement, comes from the south west in winter. Thus anyone living to the north of the proposed emission stack in winter would receive not only the existing emission from the M1 but also a concentrated emission from the proposed tunnel emission stack. There does not appear to be any mention of this in the air quality study.
 5. There has been an area set aside between **Junction Road and Boundary Road, Wahroonga** adjacent to the M1, for the parking of light vehicles. This area needs to be defined in terms of how much of it will be utilised for the work. This, I don't believe has been done. In addition the area is full of very important and large tree species. These provide not only a sound barrier but also add beauty to the area and will take a long time to regrow. It needs to be outlined how these very large trees will be saved.
- Due to the significant health concerns of the current project design, I request that the department of planning does not approve the project in its current form.
 - Consideration should be given to filtration to protect the health of the surrounding community.
 - Further work should be done on the topographical and climatological characteristics pertaining to Wahroonga.

