

10 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 our submission in response to the exhibition of the EIS for NorthConnex.

Firstly we would like to state we **object** to the M2 to M1 tunnel as described in the EIS. As Wahroonga residents we request a responsible and thoughtful design – one that considers people and the environment ahead of fast profits.

We 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 M2 to M1 tunnel, we are concerned about:

- A 9km tunnel rising and falling between the M2 and M1 opening in 2019 to reduce road traffic, including heavy duty vehicles and freight trucks on Pennant hills Road
- Two unfiltered stacks - a southern and a northern. The northern stack carrying most of the toxic pollutants. (We share the health concerns raised by CAPS <http://www.capsgroup.org/> and request amendment to the current tunnel plan for unfiltered stacks and relocation from the midst of a residential area, to a more appropriate industrial site/bush land.)
- The M2 to M1 tunnel is scheduled to link both existing roads at their existing levels which means that unfiltered emissions are the highest rates known to be most harmful to people and the environment.

To address my/our concerns I request that 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. Also that the following actions are undertaken:

- A level (zero gradient) tunnel between M2 and M1 to minimize acceleration and braking and therefore reduce emissions (as opposed to a rising and falling tunnel between M2 and M1)
- Filtered stacks, so pollutants are significantly reduced and thus reducing the known hazards on people and the environment which is well documented through long-standing and credible research worldwide.

- Serious consideration of the Equilibria Proposal by Peter Georgiades, Principal Equilibria Architecture, which requests amendments to the current tunnel plans to construct the 9km tunnel, so that the tunnel becomes level to reduce emissions, noise and minimize the impact on a highly concentrated area of schools, childcare centres, nursing homes, hospitals and elder care centres - achieved by a 9.8km tunnel and a filtered stack in the Hornsby industrial area.

In summary, we want:

- A better tomorrow for everyone (and not just a transferring of a serious problem from one residential location to another)
- Responsible design to support the inevitable and required growth in our city, Sydney, NSW, Australia
- A significant improvement to the impact on people and the environment from that which is being developed by the current project design for a rising and falling tunnel between M2 and M1
- People and the environment to be considered ahead of costs and profits.

Many thanks, in anticipation of your support.

Kind regards

**Marineia, Jonathan and Daniel
Wahroonga**