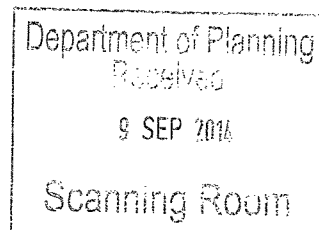




7 September 2014

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**

Dear Sir /Madam

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

I live within 300 meters of the proposed northern ventilation stack

Firstly I would like to state I **object** to the project as described in the EIS.

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. Placement of the northern ventilation stack in the centre of a densely populated residential area in Wahroonga, where 9,300 school children will be exposed, as well as multiple aged care facilities, hospitals, businesses and homes.
2. The placement of the northern ventilation stack in a valley in Wahroonga where there are often low wind speeds, which will result in poor dispersion and exposure to community to high levels of concentrated tunnel emission.
3. I am highly concerned about the multiple large scale research studies that have been conducted by very high profile and accredited medical Doctors, Professors and specialist in air pollution and environmental health matters. These studies suggest the impacts of air pollutants on health are serious in the extreme. These include increased death from heart disease, increased risks of lung cancer, stroke, and poor lung growth in children, increased asthma, and recent research suggesting low birth weight for pregnant women, increased autism, and congenital heart defects. These studies confirm air pollutants have prothrombotic and inflammatory effects on humans which cause the above health problems.
4. I am concerned about the project including future provisions for portal emissions in densely populated areas, which will result in emissions remaining at ground level, and hence exposing the local population to pollutants. I am also concerned that NorthConnex's claim that there will no portal emissions from current proposal cannot be verified.
5. I am concerned about the large amount of concentrated diesel emissions which will be emitted from the NorthConnex tunnel, as it is being designed for heavy freight to bypass Pennant Hills Rd. Diesel emissions have been classified as

## NorthConnex EIS Submission

carcinogenic by the World Health Organization, and also contain a larger number of fine particles which penetrate deep into lung tissue and remain there causing inflammation.

6. I am concerned about the multiple flaws in the air quality modeling of the northern stack in the EIS. These include:
  - a) extrapolation of meteorological data from other weather stations which do not reflect the local meteorology, local topography, and the valley location.
  - b) The use of a coarse topographical model
  - c) The failure to consider polluted intake air from the Pennant Hills/M2 interchange as part of the project contribution to air quality at Wahroonga
  - d) the background air quality being based on air quality at Lindfield and Prospect and the lack of any actual data on PM<sub>2.5</sub>
7. I am concerned that the justification for not providing filtration for the stacks is cursory and unconvincing.

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

1. The air quality and human health impact assessment need to be revised to address the issues raised above. Residents require and demand clean air and a clean environment
2. 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.
3. That the proposed North Connex tunnel be scrapped in favor a surface orbital road commencing south of the Hawkesbury river with a more direct connection with the M2/M7 motorways

Sincerely

Name and address not for publication.