PRP Diagnostic Imaging

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Your local medical imaging partner

15 May 2012

ATT: Director Infrastructure Projects
Major Project Assessment
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

RE: Submission to the Northwest Rail Link – Environmental Impact Statement 1
PRP Diagnostic Imaging – Castle Hill – Norwest Private Hospital

This submission is made on behalf of PRP Diagnostic Imaging who currently operate medical imaging facilities at the following premises:

18 Anella Avenue
Castle Hill NSW 2154

Norwest Private Hospital Ground Floor
Norbrik Drive
Bella Vista NSW 2153

PRP Diagnostic Imaging have established a series of modern radiology and nuclear medicine clinics which are owned and operated by local doctors utilising the most advanced diagnostic technology in the country. PRP provides a consistent level of patient care and world-class specialist reporting. The PRP network has over twenty metropolitan and rural clinics that provide an extensive range of diagnostic services including PET, Nuclear Medicine, MRI, Ultrasound, Digital X Ray, Mammogram, CT, Cancer Screening, Dental Imaging and Bone Mineral Density tests.

The purpose of this submission is to highlight the location of PRP's two facilities within the North West sector which are strategically located having regard to the proposed route and stations outlined in the *Environmental Impact Statement 1* (EIS 1) document.

In preparing this document, due consideration has been given to the report titled *Environmental Impact Statement 1 – Overview, North West Rail Link*. It is acknowledged that the proposed infrastructure for the North West Rail Link which will traverse a distance of some 23 kilometers between Epping and Rouse Hill is one of local and regional significance. This proposal will provide an urgently needed public transport system to one of the most rapidly expanding urban areas of New South Wales. It is understood that the project will provide eight new railway stations planned at Cherrybrook, **Castle Hill**, **Hills Centre**, **Norwest**, **Bella Vista**, Kellyville and Cudgegong Road.

In respect to the like between Castle Hill Station to Norwest, it is noted that the proposed route traverses in a westerly direction and the tunnels descend and curve north-westerly on to a straight section under Showground Road before turning west on the approach to the Hills Centre Station. The station is proposed to be located to the south but clear of the show ring, adjacent to Carrington Road. The alignment then passes below Cattai Creek before heading south on a descending gradient. It is proposed to pass under the Castle Hill Trading Estate on a long track section in a south-westerly direction. Just beyond Windsor Road, the route follows a long curve to bring the corridor directly

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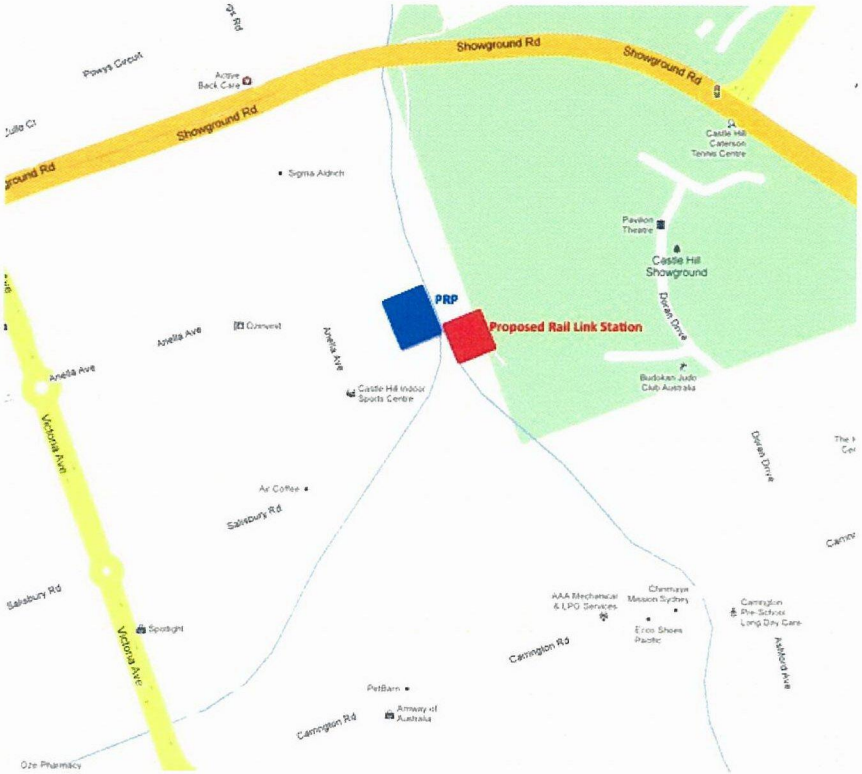
below the southern edge of Norwest Boulevard. The Norwest station is proposed to be located directly beneath Norwest Boulevard, between Strangers Creek and Brookhollow Avenue.

It is this section of proposed construction works and location of railway stations that directly relate to the current operations of PRP within this immediate precinct.



PRP site within close proximity to the proposed Northwest Rail Link The Hills Centre Station. Source: Google Maps.

Map showing location of PRP Norwest Private Hospital in relation to current proposed North West Rail Link Norwest Station. Source: Google Maps.

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The Castle Hill site is located within premises that are shared by the New South Wales RTA and are positioned in such a way that the proposed site for the Hills Centre railway station could be readily accessed if the NSW Government is prepared to construct a foot bridge from the Hills Centre railway station to the subject PRP site. It is noted that the proposed station is to be constructed south of the existing show ring (Castle Hill Showground) and this is within a short distance of PRP's and the RTA's facilities. The infrastructure by way of a pedestrian bridge linking the station with these facilities could be readily designed and budgeted for as part of the design and approval process of the North West Rail Link. It is indeed a very practical solution that would have significant community benefits as PRP provide a substantial community service and the RTA is a facility well utilised by not only the local community but also the wider region. Clients would be able to travel more readily by public transport with a set-down point at the Hills Centre Station and a short walking distance via footbridge to the subject site.

PRP Diagnostic Imaging, Castle Hill.

In respect to the Norwest Private Hospital site, PRP currently operate a full diagnostic imaging service and it is noted that there is a proposed North West Rail Link station to be located directly under Norwest Boulevard between Strangers Creek and Brookhollow Avenue. However, the Norwest Hospital site does not have the benefit of being positioned in such a way that it can be readily accessed by commuters. This is considered that this is a significant flaw in the current proposed design of the Northwest Rail Link as the Norwest Hospital services the entire region and beyond and is a type of facility that should be readily accessed from a public transport system. The NSW Government is respectfully requested to consider amending the current alignment or providing an additional station which would link the hospital site to the proposed Northwest Rail Link network. It is suggested that this is feasible and without question in the public interest.

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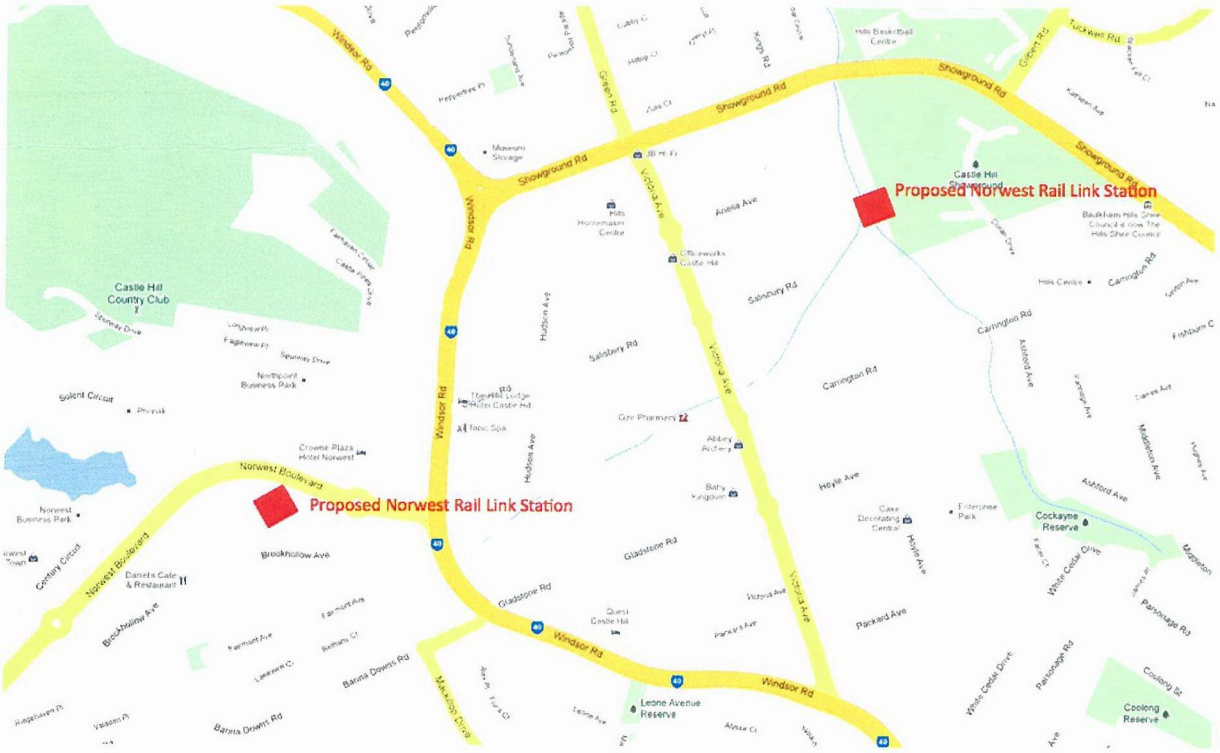

Approximate location of proposed Northwest Rail Link Stations. Source: Google Maps.

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PRP would be prepared to discuss this matter further with the relevant offices of the NSW Department of Transport or the Major Projects Assessment Team for the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

Yours faithfully,

Jonathan Page
Chief Operating Officer, PRP Diagnostic Imaging