



Director – Infrastructure Projects

Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Project – SSI 5132

NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure

GPO Box 39

Sydney, NSW, 2001

Andrew Bracegirdle

10 Treeview Place,

Epping, NSW, 2121.

Thursday, 27 September 2012

**RE: Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal – SSI 5132**



Dear Sirs,

I wish to have my say on the above project as encouraged in the recent project update. For the record, I am against the project. My reasons are listed below:

- 1) Noise and Congestion – The current M2 upgrade runs just 100m or so behind my house and has been a constant source of noise during the construction. Additionally, the work has caused congestion in the local area, which has been particularly acute during weekends. The noise and disruption this project would create feels like a slap in the face. The M2 project finishes and this one would start. There is no respite.
- 2) The New Bridge Over the M2 – Similar to the point above, when the bridge and ramp on Beecroft Road were destroyed in the M2 project, the noise was unbearable for a straight 72 hours. I'm particularly worried because the new bridge is proposed to be, again, just behind my house and the construction noise and disruption could be unbearable.
- 3) Is the Work Really Necessary? – Freight and commuter trains exist together on the current line and have survived. Will the extra 6km of track really make any difference?
- 4) Working Hours – The M2 project has been something of a joke in terms of its working hours. To avoid disturbing the commute, local residents have been made to suffer through consistent night work and weekend work throughout the project. Where the proposed project can be done during Monday to Friday daytime hours, I would support that.

- 5) Increased Freight Traffic Through Epping – Freight trains often pass through Epping in the middle of the night. I'm occasionally woken by them. Does the additional track mean that the number of trains passing through Epping would increase?

I'm not against the work being done as such. I am just concerned of the effect of the work on local residents after the misery the M2 project has caused (and continues to cause). Please consider the cumulative effect of these projects and indeed the proposal for further work when the Epping to Chatswood commuter line begins construction.

Thank you for your time

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Bracegirdle".

Andrew Bracegirdle