

Tracy Bellamy - Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal (SSI 5132)

From: [REDACTED]
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2012 6:55 PM
Subject: Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal (SSI 5132)

I request that my name be withheld

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Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal (SSI 5132)

I'd like to voice my objection to the Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal (SSI 5132) for the following reasons.

Impact of Construction

1. Noise pollution
 - a. This major development will cause a significant amount of noise pollution from construction works. Constant noise from the operation of machinery will lower the standard of living in the area.
2. Air pollution
 - a. Air pollution from construction machinery will pose a health risk to nearby residents. Particularly those with asthma and other respiratory complaints.
3. Devlin Creek
 - a. The inevitable destruction of this environmental sensitive area Epping is objectionable, particularly the removal of any trees which provide a natural barrier for the existing train line both for noise and air pollution.
 - b. M2's removal of the bus ramp was to preserve Devlin's Creek but now it looks as if area will become a new bridge and embankment for the new line
4. Historical Convict Walk
 - a. This area also contains parts of the 'Great North Walk' which has been blocked off for the M2 development preventing public access and this development would prohibit access for another 3 years.
 - b. There is a danger that a historical site could be lost / damaged forever.
5. M2
 - a. The widening of the M2 has already caused major disruption to nearby residents. To have to endure another 3 years from these works is highly undesirable.
 - b. Night works have been particularly difficult as they disrupt and prevent normal sleep patterns which in turn have wide reaching consequences to

employment and quality of life.

Environmental Impact

The increased volume of freight services from this development will reduce the standard of living for residents in the area due to the following factors.

1. Noise
 - a. There will be a substantial increase in noise from a greater volume of freight services along this line. Currently, the noise levels are very high from the screeching wheels and rumbling carriages particularly around 3am already. Considering that aeroplane travel is prohibited after 11pm and the noise we experience is certainly on par, why is freight allowed throughout the night?
2. Safety. Type of freight
 - a. I am concerned about the type of freight that will be carried along these lines. Any chemical freight would pose a significant health risk if an accident was to occur. What assurances can be given in this area?
3. Safety at Epping Station
 - a. Currently, the freight trains pass through Epping station at great speed endangering the lives of people who stand too close to the track. More services increase this danger.
4. Air pollution
 - a. Fuel fumes will cause a decrease in the air quality in this area posing a substantial risk to children, the elderly and those with both respiratory issues and immunity impaired people.
5. Structural Damage of buildings
 - a. The weight of the freight trains already causes the windows to rattle in close by buildings. The concern is that a greater number of services would cause structural damage to the buildings.

Compensation

Given the concerns outlined above it is not unreasonable consider the following compensation to residents affected by the third track proposal

1. Double glazing
2. Hotel accommodation for night works.