Tracy Bellamy - Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal, - Application number SSI 5132.

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Date:	5/11/2012 7:38 PM
Subject:	Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal, - Application number SSI 5132.

Jennifer & Tony Crittenden

11 Chorley Avenue

Cheltenham. 2119

Re: EIS for Epping to Thornleigh Third Track Proposal, - Application number SSI 5132.

We wish to voice our opposition to this proposal which would have a major deleterious effect on the Beecroft and Cheltenham communities. The EIS is inadequate and fails to address the full impact of this proposal in so many ways.

Of particular concern to us are the following:

The proposed 2 storey, 13 metre high railway concourse at Cheltenham is entirely inappropriate and unwarranted for this Heritage Conservation Area.

The Beecroft Village shopping precinct would be altered beyond recognition by this proposal. The children's play area adjacent to station would disappear & considerable vegetation lost, including historic Bunya pines. (There is no Arborist report in the EIS, nor any detail re amount of land to be resumed, nor detail re profiles & finishes for new cutting.)

Visual and Noise impacts have not been adequately addressed by the EIS, and there is no adequate consideration of likely increases in rail freight, nor of other health issues like increased coal dust from uncovered wagons travelling south to Port Kembla.

The need for a third track between Epping & Pennant Hills – with its steep gradient & curves - could be avoided if private freight operators were compelled to upgrade to modern high-powered locomotives.

Please do not approve this project, reconsider the alternatives and protect the community.

Your sincerely

Jennifer and Tony Crittenden