



Director Infrastructure Projects  
Major Projects Assessment  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

DOC 12/174397

Dear Ms Diane Sarkies

**RE: North West Rail Link Environmental Impact Statement 1**

I understand that the formal exhibition period has now closed, but that you would like the Department to provide comment on matters that should be considered in the planning process for the above project.

During the construction stage of the proposal, the Department notes the following:

1. The planned route of the line requires a lengthy section of tunnel. This route passes beneath two primary schools, namely Epping Heights and West Pennant Hills Public Schools. The school communities would need to be reassured that the schools will be able to operate safely during this period. In addition, we would be concerned that noise and vibration from these works does not interrupt normal school activities or cause structural damage to these schools.
2. The location of the above ground section after Bella Vista is not clear. The Department has two vacant sites in the Bella Vista area intended for future schools. If the location of this section is on or near these two sites, future planning of the new schools may be compromised.
3. The proposed skytrain from Bella Vista to Rouse Hill railway station may also impact on two Department schools, Ironbark Ridge Public School and Rouse Hill High School, which are situated close to Old Windsor Road. Again, noise, dust, vibration from construction equipment or above ground construction work/activity may disrupt normal school activities or cause some damage to these schools.

The Department is also discussing the proposed form of development around the new stations with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. This will help with planning for additional capacity at our existing schools and the need for new schools in areas near this major transport route.

Martin Karm, Statutory Planner can be contacted on 561 8147 or email [martin.karm@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:martin.karm@det.nsw.edu.au) regarding this submission.

Yours sincerely

**Tony McCabe**  
**Director, Planning and Delivery**  
**June 2012**

