

H18/88621

Ms Carolyn McNally
Secretary
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms McNally

F6 Extension Stage 1 – Potential Health Impacts of Emissions from Road Tunnel Ventilation Outlets

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a statement on the potential health impacts of emissions from road tunnel ventilation outlets associated with the proposed F6 Extension project, Stage 1. NSW Health has assessed the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project, which was provided on 28 August 2018.

On 19 October 2018 NSW Health received advice from Mr Hugh Durrant-Whyte, NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer, on behalf of the independent members of the NSW Advisory Committee on Tunnel Air Quality indicating that the methodology used for air quality modelling presented in the draft EIS *is logical and reasonable*.

The draft EIS describes a redirection of traffic from surface roads into the F6 Extension road tunnels. Hence, traffic-related air pollution will be released in the tunnels rather than on the surface roads. Well-designed and operated road tunnel ventilation outlets discharge in-tunnel air to the atmosphere at a height and velocity that promotes dispersion of the in-tunnel air, minimising ground-level impacts.

The draft EIS predicts that the contribution of emissions from road tunnel ventilation outlets to community exposures is small relative to the contribution of emissions from traffic on surface roads from other pollution sources. The primary source of community exposure to air pollution is from pre-existing regional air pollution, followed by pollution from surface road traffic. NSW Health considers that any potential air pollution-related health effects from the project are likely to be primarily a result of changes in volumes of traffic on the surface road network, not a result of the tunnel ventilation outlets.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Dr Kerry Chant PSM
**Chief Health Officer and Deputy Secretary
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