

Attention: Director, Transport Assessments
Planning & Assessment, Department of Planning
Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Note: Please delete my personal details before publication

25th February 2021

Objection: Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Upgrade - SSI_8862

This submission is to express my objection to the Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Project. I object to this construction on the basis of the significant impact upon the environment, the significant compromise to health and wellbeing in my community, my concerns over the lack of a published business case, and the lack of comparison with alternative public transport options. I have read the EIS documents and am concerned about the content.

I object to the project for the following reasons:

1. The proposed project does not include air filtration of the pollution stacks relating to the tunnel. I object to this lack of filtration, and am astounded that such a proposal would take place in an area where these stacks are in the highest density of schools in all of Australia. I am very concerned about the air quality that our youngest community members will be exposed to, and the impact upon health and wellbeing.
2. I object to the dive site of the proposed construction to take place at Flat Rock Gully. I request that if the project proceeds, that the dive site is relocated to Artarmon Industrial Park, which is more appropriately zoned for such an activity and will materially reduce the impact to surrounding residents. The EIS specifies that groundwater contamination is present beneath/ surrounding the Willoughby Leisure Centre and Bicentennial Reserve and that it could be migrating towards Flat Rock Reserve (EIS, Appendix M, p98). I therefore request that the dive site be relocated.
3. I object to the incomplete testing that has occurred in relation to contamination within Middle Harbour and west of Spit West Reserve, where the EIS specifies that the sediments pose a high contamination risk to construction (EIS, Appendix M, pp93-94). I request that testing is completed and published for all contamination sites.
4. I am concerned about the contamination that the EIS specifies in relation to unsealed areas adjacent to Warringah Freeway that may be contaminated with lead, hydrocarbons and asbestos. I object to this contamination and request strict dust control measures, no spoil outside sheds and alert style air quality monitoring at Cammeray Oval and Bicentennial Reserve.
5. The proposed project has a five year construction period and during this time I am very concerned about the traffic issues that will be caused for local residents. I object to the new traffic lights that will be constructed to facilitate entrance to Flat Rock Gully and the delays that these new traffic lights will cause. The regular entrance and exit of vehicles from this site will increase traffic and result in 'ratruns' throughout the surrounding suburbs as residents attempt to move about their daily activities. I object to the lack of consideration that the proposed dive site will cause to the flow of traffic in the surrounding areas.

6. I object to the significant impact upon the environment that the proposed project will cause. I am gravely concerned for the future wellbeing of my family and community if climate change is not appropriately mitigated. The proposed construction is contrary to current knowledge regarding the urgent necessity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I object to the project because it will in fact increase greenhouse gas emissions through the large amount of concrete use, significant amount of water required, and very large amount of waste that will be generated. It will also necessitate the destruction of thousands of trees, which is the very opposite of what the current climate situation requires us to do in order to ensure the wellbeing of future generations.

I am deeply concerned at the prospect of the Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Project and request that an alternative public transport feasibility study take place and be published before any further planning occurs.

Yours sincerely,
Ruth

Declaration of any reportable political donations: I have not made any reportable political donations in the past two years