

Objection to the Beaches Link EIS Air Pollution from Unfiltered Emissions

Bay Precinct strongly objects to the proposal to construct this tunnel using only longitudinal ventilation. We also strongly object that the exhausts from this very long tunnel are discharged into the atmosphere unfiltered at the exhaust stack in Anzac Park, Cammeray.

Problem: The tunnel extends from Cammeray to Balgowlah and is 7.6 kms in length. Note also, the plan is that the emissions from the Western Harbour Tunnel (not part of this EIS) also be discharged unfiltered from this same stack. Furthermore, the additional surface traffic adds to the pollution load. The exhaust stack at Cammeray is less than 200 metres from the new ANZAC Park Public School.

The preservation of good air quality is fundamental and vital to the health of the community.

Result: The quality of the air in North Sydney will be degraded by the emission of pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, hydrocarbon residues and fine particulates. The health of residents and people in North Sydney will be adversely impacted by this proposal because of the design of the tunnel ventilation system and the location of the emission stack.

Recommendation: The proposal should examine what opportunities exist to improve the situation if the project adopts this position. The objective should be to ensure that pollution should be no worse than would be the case without this project.

As Conditions of Approval, we recommend:

- 1. The installation of transverse ventilation during construction. Tunnels in Madrid, Tokyo and Stockholm are precedents.
- 2. Alternately, install filtration technology in the stacks, compliant with International best practice. The recently completed Central-Wanchai bypass tunnel in Hong Kong is a precedent.
- 3. Ban diesel heavy vehicles from using this tunnel, as is the case for other tunnels over 4.5 kms in length (Examples are the Paris Duplex Tunnel and Istanbul's Eurasia Tunnel).

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