

I have viewed all the information sessions relating to Northbridge/Willoughby and Mosman/ Middle Harbour on 20th January and 8th February, 2021. I have also read the EIS and Frequently Asked Questions on the website.

I am submitting an objection to the Beaches link on the following grounds:

1. Lack of explicit, defined and timely action if any aspect of this major construction should fail or there are any breaches of construction conditions. I am particularly concerned about ecological damage due to dredging and noise and vibration breaches.
 - There have been no assurances that work will stop immediately and the community informed. In the Middle Harbour session an attendee asked, "What are the notification requirements to the community? This was not specifically answered and is important particularly if there is adverse impact.
 - At the Northbridge Progress Association information session it was stated that if there were a fail the community would be notified within 24 hours and a written report would be provided in 28 days including the mitigation measures. These time frames need to be tighter.
 - Other instances of lack of specifics should the projected protections fail are:
In the Middle Harbour information session on 20th January 2021 Q & A an attendee asked "Will water quality be monitored daily?". Reply "A water monitoring program would be developed...agreed with the contractor."
In the same session it was asked, "How will water quality (or air quality, noise and vibration) be reported to the community?" This was not specifically answered.

In every information session there have been many assurances about prior surveys, minimum impacts, mitigation strategies re air and water quality, noise and vibration impact and preservation of the local natural and heritage environment. All these assurances assume the project will be completed without any major problems, but it needs to be acknowledged that on a project of this scale there can be errors and the community needs to be assured that work will stop immediately to prevent further adverse effects, and that they will be informed immediately about the problem and what is being done to remediate it.

2. Lack of specific information about which houses will be affected especially if they are above where the tunnelling will occur. I have viewed the interactive map which provides some information and read the FAQ re "If the tunnel goes under my house ...?" but residents need to know specifically who will be affected especially in regard to vibration, noise and potential property damage.
3. There is no information about the effect of the construction on Middle Harbour after the project is complete. There is information in the EIS about the existing aquatic ecosystem and how it will be preserved, but not on how tidal flow will be affected and in consequence the effect on the surrounding foreshore.
4. Lack of specifics about ventilation stacks in proximity to schools. In the Frequently Asked Questions on the project website in answer to the question, 'Will those ventilation outlets be close to schools or community facilities?'. There are assurances of meeting 'strict air quality standards using state of the art ventilation and tunnel design', but the question is not answered. The proximity to schools necessitates filtration on the stacks.

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1st March, 2021