

NSW Inquiry into Road Tolling Regimes – Questions on Notice

From Public Hearing on 24 May 2022

QUESTION ON NOTICE 1

Question:

The ACTING CHAIR: We are grateful for that and also grateful for the written statement—so you're tabling that. I am finally going to just come back to Mr McFarlane as well, with the submission you have given us on this issue you are raising about the discrepancy. One of the things that the Committee could choose to do is to send that to Transurban and ask them to respond to the facts you have put in your submission. Is that something that might be helpful as a path forward to deal with the issues you are putting in front of the Committee today?

EUGENE McFARLANE: I mention Transurban and WestConnex a number of times in that note and I think they are probably the right people to address that, because they own and operate the websites that most of that information comes from, not counting the kilometre number—

The ACTING CHAIR: Yes. So that is something we might potentially put to Transurban and/or to Transport, but the Committee will discuss that afterwards.

EUGENE McFARLANE: Okay, thank you.

Response:

The tolls for the M5 East and the M8 were set by the NSW Government, as specified in the corresponding WestConnex project deed.

The tolls are being correctly applied, in accordance with the provisions of the deed.

For reference, the toll calculation reflects the full tollable distance, which is not measured gantry to gantry, as well as equalisation factors and other NSW Government network decisions made before the involvement of the private sector.