

**INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW  
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

**Name:** Mrs Elizabeth Lavery

**Date received:** 19/08/2014

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Elizabeth Laverty

The Hon Robert Brown MLC Chair, General Purpose Standing Committee No 5 Legislative Council  
NSW Parliament, Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000  
cc: Jamie Parker MP, Member for Balmain

Dear Chair,

RE: Submission to Inquiry into the performance of the NSW Environmental Protection Authority

Further to 1. (b) (v) of the Inquiry's terms of reference, I would like to make the following comments about the regulation of cruise passenger ships at the White Bay Cruise Terminal at Balmain:

As a resident of Balmain since 1982, I know and love this area. I have long been a committed arts patron and contributor to the community.

I am appalled by the change in the air when ships are docked at White Bay Cruise Ship Terminal. This summer my health has been dramatically effected by the toxic emissions, when a ship is refuelling I get wheezy and my sinuses block up. I feel as if I am sick and nauseous with headache and lethargy. It is not right.

I have followed community reports in this matter and I believe that there are dangerous levels of toxic emissions from ships whilst docked, literally, two houses away at the end of my street. I understand that shore-to-ship power would greatly decrease the toxicity of air currently being emitted by ships at White Bay.

My late husband Colin Laverty OAM and I have collected important Australian art, some which is in our Balmain home. The levels of sulphur and other corrosive elements that have been detected in the air are of serious concern to the preservation of artworks. We have had to consider complicated and expensive filtering systems for air conditioning in order to maintain normal air quality in our home.

Our health and property is at risk unless the policy changes. Thorough monitoring, followed by penalties for breaching regulations really must be implemented for the safety of local residents and environment of Sydney Harbour.

Please consider my concerns in this decision.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Laverty