

INQUIRY INTO HEALTH IMPACTS OF AIR POLLUTION IN THE SYDNEY BASIN

Organisation: Willoughby City Council
Name: Mr Greg Foster
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Telephone:
Date Received: 10/08/2006

Subject:

Summary



WILLOUGHBY
CITY COUNCIL

City of Diversity

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Sustainable Environment Branch

27 July 2006

RECEIVED

10 AUG 2006

GPSC's

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No.2
Parliament House,
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY 2000

Attention: Mr Stephen Frappell

Dear Sir

Re: INQUIRY INTO THE HEALTH IMPACTS OF AIR POLLUTION IN THE SYDNEY BASIN

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on this very important health issue which faces the residents of the Sydney Basin.

As you would be aware air pollution is a major issue for all Sydneysiders. One of the major contributing sources to air pollution is the motor vehicle and the need for Sydney residents to commute to their place of employment.

The actual planning of Sydney has led to the greater reliance on the motor vehicle to commute to work due to the poor public transport options available for travelling across greater Sydney. A better relationship between the metropolitan planning of employment centres and residential accommodation could be one option to reduce this reliance on the motor vehicle for employment commuting purposes and thereby help to reduce air pollution.

Another issue that helps to increase air pollution is the taxation system. When the Fringe Benefit Tax is linked to kilometres travelled, the employer Company as well as the user of any company vehicle who resides close to work is penalised if a certain number of kilometres are not travelled per year. This tax generates additional vehicle kilometres to just meet the taxation rules. This type of taxation is environmentally detrimental as well as requires a wastage of resources (petrol/diesel).

One pollution issue not motor vehicle based is the pollution generated from wood heating fires. It is considered that this form of heating should be banned due to its unacceptable air polluting outcome.

Hopefully this information is helpful to the Committee and should you wish to discuss this matter further please contact the writer.

Yours faithfully

J. Caughlan

Greg Foster

GF SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT MANAGER

Reference: GF:dd

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