

**Submission
No 157**

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

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The Balmain community has been exposed to air and noise pollution over the past 16 months since the Overseas terminal began operation back in April 2013.

We the Community were originally advised, in a meeting held back in 2010, that we would expect visits of between 60-70 vessels per year with no overnight stays unless there was an emergency. In the first year we had 113 ship visits with approximately 20 overnight stays.

We now believe that this number of visits was certainly not the case with reports commissioned, prior to the community consultation, that the number of visits would be approximately 170. Why the deception?

Approval of this large scale operation within high density residential area is wrong. It places our health and wellbeing at great risk.

The emissions from these vessels exceed world best practise. In North America and Europe the sulphur content is less than 1% while we allow up to 3.5%. Totally unacceptable when we have the capacity to do better.

Monitoring in the area has shown that the sulphur dioxide levels at White Bay exceed levels recommended by WHO.

The answer to this pollution would be to introduce shore-to-ship power. This would greatly reduce diesel emissions into the community.

Sydney Ports has admitted to non compliance. Why is this acceptable in the 21 Century?

There have been many complaints made to the EPA and we cannot understand why the EPA cannot or will not enforce the Terminals's conditions.

We are not opposed to White Bay being used for Commercial operation but why can we not be included in discussions with the Cruise industry and Sydney Ports in their future plans?

We all want to see an industry grow but why to the detriment of one party. We should be able to pool the resources of intelligent people to have an outcome that is profitable to the Industry and Community at large.

Jann and Richard Joy