

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT  
PROJECT**

**Name:** Mr Steven Williams

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## Submission re Windsor Bridge

Dear Committee Members

I was sitting in the tailback on Wilberforce Road on Tuesday morning last week, nothing unusual, 2.5km from the bridge, trying to think of what to say in my submission to the Parliamentary Committee. I thought I'd be asking where the proponents came up with the tailback figure of 2 or 300 metres for the morning peak. I'd say they were dreaming, using "false facts". I would ask how they think anything could improve when the same bottleneck would remain. But that is only two of too many false facts bandied about in the Option 1 project.

Fast forward to Sunday, the last day for submissions, and I have had the benefit of reading the already published submissions on your website and all those false facts have already been pretty well covered by others. There are many compelling arguments put forward as to why the Option 1 bridge should not be built and why a bypass would be a far better alternative, so as regards why the project should be abandoned I can only commend those submissions and urge committee members to agree with the arguments put.

But there is still one huge unanswered question: Why is the state government so determined to proceed with a project that has been so roundly condemned? Where is the case for Option 1? Definitely not in the lies, misrepresentations, and false facts in what they have already presented. Despite many questions being asked of the politicians involved, no real answers have been obtained. The government is doggedly pushing ahead with the project whilst arrogantly refusing to engage with the community and answer why the option 1 bridge has been favoured over a bypass of the town. After many years involvement, I am of the opinion there is no compelling case. Knowing some of the people involved on the government's side, I believe they are continuing to push ahead in the face of overwhelming reasons to desist because of arrogance, big egos and bloody mindedness. Possibly incompetence and corruption as well. There appears to be no appreciation of the value of Thompson Square and Windsor to the story of Australia's beginning. Nor any respect for a differing point of view. It seems to me it's a gung-ho, we know best attitude by people believing they were born to rule. People who know best and we should all just shut up and accept it. Well, as a life-long Hawkesbury resident, my advice to them is to not treat us as gullible fools. If they have a good case for Option 1 then tell us or drop the project.

In the submissions the case against Option 1 has been laid out. Every argument used by the government has been refuted. Many "facts" have been shown to be false or "alternate facts". The government either refuses or is unable to make their

case or defend their actions with any solid argument. Instead of presenting compelling arguments for the project, they have resorted to insults. Duncan Gay referred to protesters as “the chattering classes” and “Anarchists”; Ray Williams said on channel 7 “these people don't want infrastructure”; Dominic Perrottet our local member said we were “a vocal minority” and “fringe dwellers”. Thanks for sticking up for your constituents Dom. Gladys Berejiklian said they were giving us the heritage protection we wanted and we were still not happy. Yet none of them have engaged with or met with protesters or attempted to justify the project with genuine, fact based reasons. So much for democracy in NSW. As Horace Rumpole would say: “M'lud, I put the crown has failed to prove their case!”