INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

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Submission No 13

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There are many concerns to focus on around the investment in the stadium upgrade

Poor ROI

A significant investment of tax payer funds are to be invested for little return. What are the investment alternatives that would offer the NSW taxpayers a significantly better outcomes in terms of Financial capital?

Poor social and environmental capital outcomes

The proposed changes will negatively impact the environment for little return. There is social dislocation, little consultation and a desire to bulldoze through a development that has wavering support of the local community. That seems to be a recipe for disaster.

Poor governance should not be rewarded

The existing safety risks, which are real, are the responsibility of the existing governance structures. The failure of the Board to adequately anticipate any safety and other risks and take steps to deal with these issues, does not off them a "get out of jail free" card for their incompetence and lack of supervisory oversight.

The choice of location:

The Government policy is focused on creating major sports and entertainment facilities on the edge of a congested city & eastern suburbs with inadequate public transport. The demographic centre and demand for such facilities is in Western Sydney.

Misleading the public regarding the redevelopment This rebuild is not just about sports – it's about creating a multi-complex entertainment precinct. surely this should be located in the centre of population in Western Sydney, where there is a much greater demand and significantly fewer facilities.

Rushed planning process:

Infrastructure NSW has given a timeframe of 6 months to assess the project. This is an unusually fast determination for a project of this size and complexity. The Government appears to be fast tracking an approval so demolition of the current stadium can occur before the next election.

I would be happy to discuss these issues further if and when required

Warm regards Mark Jones