INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Ms DINA Barros

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Submission No 138

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BANANA REPUBLIC - here we come!

The lack of transparency with these deals behind closed doors only leads the public to speculate and to think the worst!

WE CAN HANDLE THE TRUTH!

If the aim is to have a new mixed use development incorporating a sports arena, as are being built across the US, to reinvigorate cities - why not explain it, why be secretive? Maybe because there is a flaw in the process they can't divulge? The 85 year old Yankee stadium in NY was only demolished after the new one, next to it, was opened. To demolish the 30 year old award winning Allianz Stadium and rebuild it in the same spot, has at least a 3 year time frame (30 mths to build alone). Whose interests are being served in this process?

WHAT'S IN IT FOR US? - the end users, the neighbourhood, the tax payers. I hear we NEED a new colour changing stadium like the one in Perth, which WA so proudly uses in its tourism advertising. Seems to me this is the sort of light pollution we don't need in the middle of Paddington - how about the extra noise, traffic, infrastructure. With all the major cities being hell-bent on getting new stadiums, the competition for the large sports events will be intense.

With the money (inevitably) being DIVERTED from EDUCATION and HEALTH, for this largess, WE the taxpayers, will be even further out of pocket and we won't be able to afford tickets for these events.

Maybe they are thinking of those elusive 'HIGH ROLLERS' from overseas again, to fill these stadiums. The Premium seat quantity is doubling at Allianz.

The NSW GOVERNMENT TRACK RECORD with the Light Rail Contract, does not inspire confidence that they actually know what they are doing. Its behind schedule, its costing billions extra and now its stopped altogether while they dispute it in court. I wouldn't trust this government to negotiate any building works deals whatsoever. Its a recipe for state bankruptcy - and we are not too big to fail.

NSW GOVERNMENT - WRECKING BALL !!!

This government has a blatant disregard for the opinions of the local stakeholders and insists in keeping them in the dark. It wants to get out its wrecking ball and demolish the stadium before the next election - the fall out from all the debris will be obvious.

The residents end up with a demolition zone and they will be out of government A LOSE-LOSE SITUATION!