

**Submission  
No 1**

## **INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE CBD AND SOUTH EAST LIGHT RAIL PROJECT**

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The conception and management of this whole LRT project is comical, its economics highly dubious and its implementation a managerial disgrace. It is most unlikely that the above-ground financial case considered the massive opportunity costs of traders' lost business, commuters lost time, construction delays, traffic frustrations and extended commuting times, damage to pavements, pedestrian inconvenience and contractors' litigations to mention but a few. This should have been an underground project, it is inconceivable that the above-ground case was more financially viable and more traffic-flow efficient than the slow moving above ground project. Australian manufacturers are experienced in constructing efficient underground tunnelling machines and our contractors are well versed in tunnel construction here and globally. Commuters in Sydney's east and traders along the travelling corridor will be burdened with this inefficient eye-sore for many years to come. Shame on the NSW government.