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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 May 2018

Partially Confidential

I own a house adjacent to the Wimbo Park construction zone on the light rail route. My criticisms are:

- 1. The high handed approach taken the Acciona and their delegates to giving any meaningful information to people impacted by this project. I can give 2 examples. The first relates to filling the hole at the rear of our property on the old Olivia Gardens site. The dust and vibration happened over an extended period during which we could not open the windows on our house. On at least 3 occasions I asked Acciona to give some guidance as to when this would finish as my wife is an asthmatic and we would like to be able to plan if we should stay in our property. On each occasion I was told that they could not provide an end date which I find disturbing. Is this project so poorly run that their project plan does not have a time line for completing different components?
- 2. Also relates to the above site. With 2 weeks warning the site was changed from a "Set Down Area" their words to conjure an image of passive storage to an area where road base would be dumped, sifted and then removed. The residents have had to live with a quasi quarry (with truck movements) on their back door with no dust monitoring until early 2018 (confirmed by Acciona). Once again we have had to keep our windows closed and when asked Acciona will give no guidance as to when we will stop living through this hell. If Acciona wasn't so high handed or incompetent they could share their plans with the community who can then make their plans. (My wife and I have temporarily vacated our property and would like to plan our return when these activities cease)
- 3. I'm very angry about the arrogant approach of Acciona who I feel are ripping off NSW taxpayers. The snail's pace of construction (we were told at one stage construction zones would last for 9 months) and our recent bullying into having air filters installed in our homes. Air filters may have been some use to us 2 years ago but now it is a matter of how much noise will the light rail make once operating and can we live with it. Acciona is demanding we accept or reject their offer of an air filter in the next week. This is typical of their attitude of imposing control on residents. I feel the prudent course would be to make the offer of air filters and keep the offer open for 12 months from the opening of the light rail (whenever that may be). This way residents may decide they don't want the air filters saving the NSW taxpayer money. The approach by Acciona smacks of corruption. I feel that someone is making money off these air filters and residents are being pressured into having them installed.