

**Submission
No 50**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

Name: Mr Michael Tatam

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To whom it may concern: I value the opportunity of making comment to this inquiry. I have written on multiple occasions to voice my objection to the plan and I believe as the result of work undertaken by Jamie Parker, we are in a position to comment further now. I object to this project on virtually every level! I do not believe the business case has been adequately explored in terms of comparisons with other solutions to Sydney's appalling traffic problems. The original rationale for the road appears to have been utterly lost in the process and I defy its architects to recall exactly what that was! Sydney desperately needs an extensive, coordinated public transport system and this is supported by evidence from research from around the world. Any gains of a new roadway will be short lived with the only people benefiting longer term being the owners of the tollway. The complexities of the new age of self drive vehicles/share vehicles/ in addition to self propelled vehicles such as bikes and E bikes have just not been considered or adequately explored. The budget has blown out and is now, I believe, on track to be the most expensive roadway in the world. This kind of extraordinarily expensive and impactful project should have been subjected to the most rigorous scrutiny and evaluation however both Infrastructure Australia and the NSW Auditor General have both criticised the governance of the project. And at what a terrible cost to the local people.. I find it hard to believe that architects of the project or politicians making the decisions are themselves directly or adversely affected by this. The cruel compulsory acquisition of properties and the out and out destruction of suburbs like Haberfield is nothing short of wicked. The proposed exhaust stacks in the Rozelle area must never be allowed to go ahead with schools, day centres and homes in such close proximity. How could the government even begin to countenance such a suggestion? This is bullying at its worst. The long term end results will be no better traffic flow for those trying to reach the CBD and massive negative effects on all the suburbs in its path. Sydney must have a decent public transport system and roadways which encourage bike use and even walking for reasonable distances as viable alternative means of transport. And I am at a loss for words when it comes to the proposal for a third harbour crossing that is again a ROADWAY! Dredging and disturbance of the harbour floor would be disastrous for the marine life As everyone is aware, there remain major issues with toxic sediment which would be stirred and circulated having had a chance to settle over recent years. This should not be on the table for discussion as apart from direct environmental issues, this again ignores the need for public transport and or far smarter solutions. Please keep me informed as to the progress of the inquiry and when it will be discussed in the Parliament.