

**Submission
No 154**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

Name: Ms Roz Cheney

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Our community wants and needs world class public transport, not more polluting toll roads. Global experience of major toll road construction has demonstrated conclusively that projects like WestConnex increase air pollution, encourage more car use, fleece road users with exorbitant tolls and eventually fill the increased road capacity they create. WestConnex is shaping up as the most expensive road project in the world but it won't solve Sydney's congestion problem. I oppose this project because: . The business case does not properly consider alternatives such as public transport and demand management . The budget is now \$16.8 billion - a 68% increase on the original estimate. Associated works will greatly increase this figure. . A project of this scale, using taxpayers funds, should be subject to rigorous assessment but both the NSW Auditor-General and Infrastructure Australia have criticised the governance of this project. . Hundreds of homes, businesses and parklands have been and will be compulsorily acquired. The traffic chaos around construction has been and will be dangerous and destructive of our community. . It is diverting funding from public transport which is desperately needed across Sydney. . WestConnex will turn Lilyfield/Annandale/Rozelle into a dumping round for toxic exhaust fumes with three enormous unfiltered exhaust stacks at the Rozelle Rail Yards and one at Victoria Road at Iron Cove Bridge.