

**Submission
No 161**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

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Thank you for this opportunity. Australia is the home of tyranny of distance, enormously amplified by our sprawling built. Transport fuel is mostly overseas refined fuel subject to a number of acute risks, largely geopolitical. Our reserves at best are shipbound on the high seas, at any given time. Sydney finally needs a transport plan, which will include roads. However, westconnex is not part of this universal transport concept and has an inordinate cost. Australia's predilection for road transport seemed to be a transport panacea: build roads and use your vehicle, but without a real transport plan it has become gridlock. I have to laugh at witnessing road projects to lessen travelling times to now have gridlock. Part of the transport plan would resume the aborted Bradfield concept of interlocking railway lines, of the kind which has just been announced in Melbourne to run underground.