

Submission
No 406

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX
PROJECT**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 29 August 2018

Partially
Confidential

To Whom it May Concern

My name is _____, and I am a relatively new resident to the North Strathfield area. My wife _____, and I moved into our first home in January of 2017, and at the time of purchase we were made aware that our property was in fact being tunnelled under for the Westconnex project. What concern we had was put to ease as we were informed that tunnelling was actually 30m below ground, to which we would feel minimal to no effect to our newly acquired property.

However over the course of the last 18 months we have noticed considerable cumulative damage to the structural integrity of our house, with cracks in our ceiling and walls, and our floors becoming obviously warped where they were initially straight. On discussion with our neighbours it is clearly apparent this is NOT an isolated incident, with similar issues occurring to their houses.

I would also like to bring to your attention the countless disruptions and delays we have had to endure over the course of the westconnex construction. Closure of streets causing considerable increased travelling times, which I'm sure collectively we understand is unavoidable, is nevertheless a burden we have to bear with no reward or compensation. Furthermore numerous workers have been parking on our street, with no regard for directions given to not park there, leaving residents without anywhere to park their cars. My wife and I have just had a baby, and I hope you can understand the frustration of the situation when you have to walk a considerable distance to get your newborn to and from your car.

I'm sure you are well aware of the difficulty many first home owners have to actually purchase something in Sydney, and my wife and I have worked especially hard to purchase a home in which we can raise our family. With house prices the way they are, I truly believe we are more than justified in our disappointment to how this project has affected us and how much further it will set us back due to the damages it has caused.

I really hope that at some stage the struggles of the local residents will actually be acknowledged by the state government and some form of strategy to rectify the situation can be implemented.