

**Submission
No 69**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR
TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK**

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I am concerned about the impact of the tunnel on pollution around Birchgrove that will likely make swimming at Dawn Frazer very dangerous. Experts have expressed their opinion, contrary to the EIS, that twin tunnels will disturb dangerous sediments and that no operation of this type has ever been successful,

I am also concerned at the impact on the wonderful small park Yurulbun that would be out of public use for two or more years. Similarly Birchgrove wharf will be out of use for years.

The tunnelling under Birchgrove and Balmain/Rozelle will cause great inconvenience for those living over its path. Despite the claim that it will be deep and of little inconvenience, experience from various sections of Westconnex is that drilling at even 60 metres (and the tunnel will be at 30 metres in parts) can be difficult to bear.

Overriding these specific worries is the wider issue of the cost of this project at a time when the NSW budget is not in a healthy condition and the likely cost of the project will be far greater than the already enormous projected cost, if past infrastructure projects are any guide. At a time when critical infrastructure is crumbling (such as regional hospitals)