

Submission  
No 323

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 18 June 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

Objection: Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade - SSI-8863

I write to express my strong objection to the Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade.

Global experience of toll road construction has demonstrated conclusively that projects like this increase air pollution, encourage more car use, fleece road users with exorbitant tolls and eventually fill the increased road capacity they create.

I object to this Project as it:

- Is based on false assumptions about public transport demand;
- Will not achieve its stated goal of addressing long-term traffic congestion in Sydney;
- Is also not properly tested against competing public transport projects;
- Fails to adequately address impacts on the community, especially noise, air quality and health impacts for local residents;
- Puts homes and businesses at risk of damage from vibrations, settlement and ground movement;
- Requires the compulsory acquisition and demolition of a number of homes;
- Will not require the filtration of exhaust stacks, at a risk to public health;
- Will pollute our harbour with toxic sediment putting Sydney Harbour's marine life at risk;
- Will have an adverse impact on greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to climate change;
- and
- Is not justified by any publicly released business case.

I live in a street very close to White Bay where we already experience extensive noise and air pollution that is dangerous to our health and there are already a number of air and noise pollution and hazardous projects in the pipeline to add to a more toxic environment. The toxic sediment from the harbour that is proposed to be transported by barge to White Bay, where it will be processed and then transported by truck will affect the environment, by both noise and air pollution to a maximum degree and we fear for our safety and lives by the short and long term effects. We urge and plead with you not to proceed with this project that has tubes on the harbour floor that require such dredging, transport and processing of toxic (as even described by you and your EIS study) sediment. There are also the effects on the harbour water and natural, underwater environment, harbour pools, fishing and on-harbour activities.

This project is a missed opportunity to transform our city's transport system to make getting around Sydney cheap, easy and fast without having to get into a car and pay a toll.