

Submission  
No 378

**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

I object to the Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Connection project for a number of reasons:

1. Business case – the complete business case has not been shared appropriately which makes my alarm bells go off. The numbers in the published EIS report doesn't align with the reality. If improved commute and growth in the area are the drive for the project a more modern solutions needs to be reviewed, not spending \$14b dollars to increase the number of lanes. Data from similar projects clearly shows that adding more roads and lanes, will only increase the traffic. Adding more lanes is not a sustainable option to support growth in the area. The recent opening of the new Metro line in the western Sydney shows that if available, people will utilise public transport. Building more private toll roads is simply not the infrastructure that the Northern Beaches residents want or needs.

2. Environmental - it's just inconceivable that this project is still being considered. \$14b for two tunnels - why is this money not being invested in sustainable public transport and more important public infrastructure like proofing our city and state for climate change. We don't want more cars and trucks on the road. We want less - so invest our money in more suitable infrastructure projects.

3. Our health – the proposal to build two un-ventilated stacks in close proximity near schools is pure madness and is something that I could perhaps anticipate in a developing country, but not the 5th richest country in the world. With Sydney enduring days and days of poor air quality, how can you justify enabling even more pollution and emissions?

This entire proposal is just so short-term thinking that will benefit very few people but have a very negative impact for just as many, not taking into account the long-term environmental impact especially around Burnt Bridge Creek