

INQUIRY INTO ROAD TOLLING REGIMES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 3 July 2021

Partially
Confidential

Dear Committee

I am the sole principal of a boutique law firm with an office on the same street as that of Parliament. Despite earning a decent living, through the ongoing sweat of my brow and taking considerable personal risk, I am continuously economically assaulted by toll road operators, amongst other sources.

In the ordinary course of events, I pay \$34.56 each day to drive to work and home. In the most extreme instance, I paid \$80.98 in a single day, simply to facilitate meeting with a potential client up the coast, including picking up my associate from our city office. The operators constantly oncharge users unjustified costs like when the operators' cameras fail and do not detect a toll tag, the very same camera which detects the very same tag the very next day.

As a resident of Western Sydney, with an office in Sydney CBD, I bear the biggest costs. How is it that the persons fighting out of poorer socio-economic conditions are hit the hardest with regressive taxes and other social or economic costs like toll roads? And to what end? To pay the coffers of a Canadian pension board or some other large corporate, even after paying most if not all construction costs through state taxes.

The position with toll roads is disappointing but unsurprising and unspectacular given the trajectory of the state. Economically effectively underselling assets on long term leases and other horrible transactions at the expense of NSW taxpayers. Donors may prop you up, but the electorate votes you in.

Yours faithfully