

**Submission  
No 493**

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

**Name:** Mr Murray Jones

**Date Received:** 18 June 2021

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I refer to the Terms of Reference of the Inquiry into the Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link and would be pleased if my views are taken into consideration in reaching a conclusion.

In summary, my concerns rest on the adverse impact to the local North Sydney area flowing from a poorly designed infrastructure development whose transparency has left a lot to be desired and response to public concerns lacking. Good governance practices were not always evident.

From my perspective, the project has lacked sufficient focus on the costs, particularly to the environment and the quality of living of local North Sydney residents, and inflated the benefits. From the outset, I was disappointed that alternative options, particularly enhancements to public transport, were seemingly dismissed. I am particularly uneasy at the loss of valuable green space and puzzle at how this could be consistent with the project's overall goals. As with many major public work projects, I am also uneasy at the potential blow out in costs and I would like to be assured that this additional burden should not add to the already heavy non-financial costs likely to be carried by North Sydney residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission and I wish the Committee well as it undertakes the Inquiry.