

Submission
No 541

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 18 June 2021

Partially
Confidential

18th June 2021

The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC
Chair
Public Works Committee
NSW Legislative Council
Parliament House
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<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2767#tab-submissions>

Submission to the Inquiry into the Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link

Dear Members of the Public Works Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to an inquiry regarding these concerning projects. I strongly object to the Western Harbour Tunnel (including the Warringah Freeway Upgrade) and Beaches Link (including the Gore Hill extension) projects and urge you to recommend that the NSW Government abandon these plans immediately.

My wife and I live in Naremburn. We have 4 school aged children. We live within a few hundred metres of the proposed dive site of the Beaches Link tunnel at Flat Rock Gully. Our children walk to and from school and they cross Brooks Street to get to Cammeray PS. We are seriously concerned about the volume of trucks that will use Brooks Street to get to and from the dive site. We are concerned about the safety of the many school children who cross Brooks Street and we are concerned about the noise of the trucks. We do not believe a dive site for a major tunnelling project should be in a residential area. We are supportive of better public transport options, rather than tolled tunnels for cars. My reasons are further outlined in relation to the Committee's Terms of Reference.

I object to these projects. Please find outlined my concerns below:

(k) the adequacy of processes for accessing and responding to noise, vibration and other impacts on residents, during construction and operationally,

Noise pollution will be a permanent, 24/7 problem. Trucks, drilling, ground work and preparation activities will mean noise along and around the construction corridor. The Flat Rocks Drive/Brook Street proposed site is surrounded by residential housing, children's sporting facilities and general recreation areas. The location is situated in a valley. The construction noise of tunnelling will reverberate throughout the valley. The noise from trucks hauling full loads out of the valley will be significant and constant.

Tunnelling will be shallow in residential areas through Cammeray, Crows Nest, Naremburn and Artarmon. The proposed tunnel passed directly under my house. I am seriously concerned about ground movement and damage to my property.

(l) the impact of the project on nearby public sites, including Yurulbin Point and Dawn Fraser Baths, and Flat Rock was once a tip site containing dumped asbestos. Surface and underground works on these proposed construction site would likely disturb asbestos and other carcinogens. Hundreds of children play netball and football at this location each week.

(m) any other related matter.

Road safety is a major concern. At least 70 trucks an hour will travel along residential streets. The project update incorrectly states that these sites allow direct access from Flat Rock Drive to the Warringah Freeway, keeping trucks off local streets. To reach the Warringah Freeway, trucks must travel along Brook Street.

Brooks Street is a major cross street for primary school students walking from Naremburn to Cammeray Public and the ANZAC school. My children cross this street every day to get to school. A major bike commuter path from North Ryde to the City also crosses Brook Street. The horrific death of a school student in December 2017 by a NorthConnex truck in Hornsby should serve as a warning to keep these trucks away from high pedestrian areas.

I would like to have my name suppressed.

Yours Sincerely,