

**INQUIRY INTO ACQUISITION OF LAND IN RELATION TO
MAJOR TRANSPORT PROJECTS**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 2 July 2021

Partially
Confidential

I trust all is well, I have tried numerous times to lodge a submission into the parliamentary inquiry into compulsory acquisitions. My properties have been compulsory acquired almost 3 years ago, and we still have not received our 90% payment. Rather the acquiring authority continues to appeal at every opportunity, bullying and extorting us into accepting only what they want to pay. The determination was completed in December 2018 after the acquiring authority threatened the valuer general (in writing) to reduce his value (on two separate occasions one of them directly to the officer; bypassing the VG) in the end the VG capitulated and provided a peer review with a reduced value of 40%. The valuer general then breached its own policy by not taking the Highest and Best Use (but rather the lower of the two) so that it suited the acquiring authority. The Acquiring authority then took the VG to court. After we paid \$190,000 in legal fees, a determination was reissued by the VG (at the lower amount) We then accepted 90% of the determination mid last year. The acquiring authority has still not paid. We took them to the LEC for the 90% and won. But they are now appealing that judgement to be heard at the end of this month. In the meantime, we have just had our case heard for the full amount \$300,000 worth of legal fees to us. And have now been told that if we were to accept the VG's offer in full, the acquiring authority would probably appeal and delay this for another few years. Again still not paid in full for our properties. I have attached a very basic letter showing the threat made to the VG and their internal responses. I will not accept these issues being rectified after we have been ripped off. This must be fixed now> the VG covered up the threats I will not tolerate more coverups. The Acquiring Authority so breaches s249k of the Crimes Act and must be made immediately accountable for their actions

Please see a sample of letters and emails from Ryde City Council (legal team) to the VG attached, relating to the Chronology attached in the Submission. Every dated item has evidence/a document to support it. but you do not have enough space for me to add the attachments. I would like the opportunity to do so, if you can provide that to meet, by way of email or USB drop off. Further, I have added below the recent outcome of the case for the balance of the 90% (in our favour dated 30/04/2021) that the council is now appealing in the court of appeal. It is unbelievably disgusting and so Unaustralian, to have our property rights stolen from us from our own government!! We pay our taxes and comply with the law. It has become clearly apparent that as a nation, we are no different to China or Iran, if the Government wants something then we have absolutely no rights in this country. They have used my father's age as an argument to not pay the 90% and our application for hardship. There is a great silence in the government and it seems a clear coverup so that nobody is accountable. I can not believe that the Valuer General's office can be threatened so blatantly, and that not only does the VG capitulate to the threats, but they also do not report it to the correct authorities. The VG has a responsibility to protect landowners and ensure that these actions are not repeated, instead they have provided a precedent! (we believe that s249k of the Crimes Act has been breached and someone should be held accountable) I would like the opportunity to have this discussed further with you all. It should not cost me over \$500,000 to get my determination and then payment on the value of my property. The Judge is now in his final days of determining the outcome of our case and although we have made offers to council and wish to accept the VG's offer, we are aware that council will appeal (it is not a risk that we are willing to take, as this may take years and cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars more) so we have no choice but to wait for the judgment. This is extortion! This is an urgent matter as the judge is making his decision and we are wanting to settle this matter and accept the VG's offer as per the Just Terms Act, without further legal appeal from council. Please attend to this immediately, please help us against these tyrants. Bring confidence back to property owners.