INQUIRY INTO GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST BILL 2021

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I am writing to oppose the Greater Sydney Parklands Bill.

The Bill is essentially anti-democratic and represents a further attempt at privatisation of a publicly-owned asset.

It places too much control in the hands of an individual, the minister whilst disempowering local government and citizens.

Local government, as the level of government closest to park users, must remain the consent authority. The role of state government must remain as funder and protector of regional open space. Any privatisation must remain prohibited by law.

Governments hold these lands in trust for all of us and for posterity. The mental and physical health of all depends on open space and the protection of built heritage.

I trust the committee will continue the good work of previous generations of politicians in protecting these spaces for Sydneysiders and visitors.