Supplementary Submission No 100a

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE ROZELLE INTERCHANGE

Name: Mr Les Johnston

Date Received: 23 March 2024

Dear Chair person,

I wish to add additional information related to the unfiltered exhaust stacks associated with the tunnel emissions.

The EIS documentation made assertions relating to air pollution from the motor vehicle fleet which are incorrect. The assertion that the motor vehicle fleet emissions for new vehicles are decreasing is incorrect. The combination of the growth in sales of SUVs and heavier vehicles means that the motor vehicle fleet emissions are increasing. This means that the claims of NSW Transport are misleading.

Vehicle fleet emissions continue to be problematic while the Federal Government is yet to impose new and more stringent requirements on new vehicles. The policy of NSW Transport is one of dilution rather than emission regulation. The NSW Government is in the position where it could impose pollution charges on stack emissions under the Load Based Licensing scheme. Any reluctance to do so is contrary to the established and accepted environmental policy of the polluter pays. The current free pollution approach for toll road tunnels is not reflective of best environmental approach.

The health impacts of vehicular fossil fuel emissions need to be addressed as research shows there are no safe levels for some of the pollutants. To make the Rozelle Parklands safe for people exercising, the imposition of a polluter pays approach will ensure that future air pollution levels will decrease rather than be accepted.

Les Johnston