

Minister Pavey
Minister for Roads Maritime and Freight
Parliament of NSW
Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000
oxley@parliament.nsw.gov.au

cc: *balmain@parliament.nsw.gov.au*

Dear Minister,

Re: Western Harbour tunnel project

I am writing to you to express my alarm at the proposed Western Harbour project. I understand the RMS is undertaking an Environmental Impact Statement which is considering a range of options which will have an enormous impact on our community and marine life in Sydney harbour.

My major concerns are as follows:

The proposal to dig a trench from Yurulbin Point to the vicinity of the abandoned coal loader at Waverton will result in unacceptable impacts on the fragile marine environment of Sydney Harbour.

The volume of sediment to be excavated will be heavily contaminated and treating the waste on White Bay will have an unacceptable noise, odour and traffic impact on the community.

Any proposal to remove the current availability of parking on Robert Street, Balmain will have a significant impact on local businesses and residents and should not be supported.

The government should re-examine route options as well as re-examine opportunities for a conventional tunnel that will not require dredging for a trench tunnel.

The government should commit themselves to best practice filtration of any exhaust stacks and categorically rule out any stacks on the peninsula.

If the government is to proceed with the unsuitable trench option, then the pipes should be cast at Port Kembla and barged into place.

Overall, I believe that the government should focus on developing a world class public transport system instead of investing in more private motorways that will impose significant impacts, promote car dependence and fail to move our state into a less polluting and less carbon intensive future.

Yours Sincerely,