

Submission Cover Sheet

West Gate Tunnel Project IAC

Sub no:

196

Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Carmen Largaiolli

Organisation:

Address: [REDACTED]

Affected property:

Attachment: West_Gate_Tunn

Comments: Objection to works approval application - emission stacks. See attached.

West Gate Tunnel Project

Objection to works approval application – emission stacks

1. Brooklyn is already the most polluted suburb in Victoria, and one of 12 major Australian pollution hot spots¹. It has been exposed to decades of high levels of all forms of pollution – dust, odour and noise. The community has suffered a huge loss of health and amenity due to this exposure.
2. In Brooklyn, the PM10 particulate pollution has been identified as a major pollutant and it has been well documented² that levels have exceeded WHO standards on many occasions. The project will not only contribute to existing levels of PM10, but also add an increased level of PM2.5 – the more sinister finer particulate matter that reaches right into the human lungs.
3. The proposed location for the Western exit portal of the tunnel will be adjacent to planned residential communities at both the Bradmill and Don's Smallgoods sites. In addition, as soon as traffic exits the tunnel it just about arrives at Altona North and Brooklyn residential areas, where both suburbs will then be fully exposed to above ground traffic, copping the full brunt of pollution as well as the unfiltered emissions emanating from the Western stack.
4. The West Gate Tunnel project EES has utilized PM data collected by the EPA air monitoring station at Footscray, which does not accurately reflect the real PM conditions as measured by the Brooklyn air monitoring station located at Brooklyn reserve, which has been operational for almost 10 years. Data is collected by EPA and shows a history of PM10 breaches. Therefore, the EES air quality modeling is distorted for the areas closest to the West Gate Freeway at Brooklyn, Altona North and Yarraville since it has not used historical data from the closest air monitoring station (Brooklyn).
5. Particulate matter in outdoor air pollution is designated a Group 1 carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).
6. The **PM standard** used in the EES air quality modelling is **incorrect**. **Figure 13-1 shows the standard as concentration 60. The applicable standard is 50 micrometers per cubic metre**. This does not instill a great deal of confidence for citizens to trust the contents of this EES.

Conclusion:

Both the proposed emission stacks are located in the western suburbs. The works approval application proposes there is no justification for air pollution control technology to be installed, stating “the measures adopted should be cost-effective and in proportion to the significance of the environmental problems being addressed”. This is totally unacceptable to me and my family. Filtration technology is available in this 21st century and it is incumbent on the government to protect its citizens to the fullest. Simple and clear! Further, the western suburbs has carried the burden of Melbourne's worst pollution for decades, especially our suburb of Brooklyn, and nothing less than the utmost safety is called for here. Additionally, the residential areas of Brooklyn and Altona North will be further exposed to the above ground traffic travelling on the West Gate Freeway and the resulting pollution.

Carmen Largaiolli & family



7 July 2017

¹ Environmental Justice Australia “Clearing The Air – The Laws We Need” July 2014

² EPA – Brooklyn air pollution reports