

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX
PROJECT**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

We all know the big road construction site, WestConnex. But is it actually ok? You'll find out soon. Firstly, it is a huge waste of money. Get ready to have your mind blown.

Well, WestConnex was originally intended to cost 10 billion dollars. A lot, right? It has now been raised to 18.6 billion currently, but WestConnex is predicted to possibly go as high as 45 billion! Even worse, that money they're using is coming out of our parents' taxes which they spent a long time earning and taxes are compulsory, you have to do it as an Australian worker! Instead, the government could be using those taxes for hospitals, schools, homeless people, animal shelters and much more! So why are you using the money for WestConnex, government? Another reason why WestConnex is plain stupid is the pollution it's releasing into the air! Do I need to introduce you to another world problem, global warming? Well, global warming is a dangerous thing caused by us humans burning fossil fuels and making electricity, when we could easily use solar panels or something else. So where does WestConnex come into this, you ask? Cars use petrol, which is directly related to fossil fuels. WestConnex attracts cars onto the road and also the construction of WestConnex in itself requires electricity and fuel, therefore making more unsustainability and a very large carbon footprint.

I know you're probably bored and possibly convinced by now, but I will tell you a third reason why WestConnex isn't the future. It is destroying people's homes! How would you feel if your beloved, perfect home in the right area, maybe in area for the high school you want to go to, near the construction of WestConnex in itself requires electricity, therefore making more unsustainability and a very large carbon footprint. I know you're probably bored and possibly convinced by now, but I will tell you a third reason why WestConnex isn't the future. It is destroying people's homes! How would you feel if your beloved, perfect home in the right area, maybe in area for the high school you want to go to, near the places you're use to, near your friends' houses, near that fun park you like to go to is destroyed. It doesn't only affect the owners of the house, but their friends and family they live near and their school record as well. For example, many kids from St Peters had to leave the school because of the construction and the destruction of their homes. Even the lucky ones whose houses are pardoned aren't really that lucky, watching their friends and neighbours' houses be destroyed from out their window. It could even cause homelessness, another world issue to the people who can't afford a new one. Would you like to watch your/your friend's house be

destroyed?! I wouldn't. It also creates the hassle of getting new jobs near your new house and being the new kid in another school.

Another reason is that WestConnex is creating political problems. Mike Baird, the old Liberal Premier who was doing WestConnex at first, was hated by so many people for starting it that he was kicked out of the Premier position and replaced by Gladys Berejiklian, who isn't much better either in my opinion and is continuing his job. She doesn't really do anything except pose in photos with pre-schoolers and make WestConnex. There are also problems going on with the federal government at the moment, which could also be linked to the hatred of WestConnex, like the prime minister change from Tony Abbott to Malcolm Turnbull to Scott Morrison.

The construction itself leads me to a fifth reason why WestConnex isn't okay. The construction of WestConnex not only produces air pollution, which can affect our lungs and give us lung cancer and breathing problems, but it produces noise pollution as well. Noise pollution is a concept where something near you is so loud that you can't concentrate on what you're doing and in extreme cases, can lead to a hearing impairment it's so loud.

My final reason is that nobody I know really wants or needs this in their daily lives. There are many groups against WestConnex, to name a few, the WestConnex Action Group (WAG), Leichhardt Against WestConnex (LAW), No WestConnex, Stop WestConnex and Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW). There is also The Greens, a political party and many independents around NSW who are against it. So in conclusion, WestConnex costs too much, is unsustainable, destroys people's houses, creates political problems, produces air and noise pollution and there are many people and groups still fighting against it. So why use WestConnex? That's why WestConnex won't work!