

Inquiry into Health Impacts of Air Pollution in Victoria

Mr Ben Dawson

Organisation Name:
Your position or role:

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

A large and growing source of air pollution in Melbourne is from vehicle emissions. Despite the deleterious health impacts of this being well known, it has largely been ignored by a succession of Victorian state governments who have embarked on a roads based building spree over recent decades.

The shift in heavy freight from rail to road has resulted in an increase in known carcinogens being emitted from a greatly increased truck fleet on Melbourne's roads.

There are three ways to deal with this, stated below in order of priority.

- 1) Halt construction of new tollway/freeway projects in Metropolitan Melbourne. These projects induce demand on the overall road network, shifting passenger and freight away from rail and onto roads. This funding instead is to be transferred into freight and commuter rail.
- 2) Mandate filters on all freeway tunnel exhaust stacks. These locations present good opportunities to intercept particulate emissions prior to them spreading into the surrounding environment. The current North East Link project plans for such a stack to be installed with no filter at the Bulleen interchange, despite particulate levels being forecast to exceed EPA acceptable levels.
- 3) Ban the sale of internal combustion engine vehicles by 2025 (exceptions for agricultural users).
- 4) Remove the EV tax and provide incentives to switch to an EV fleet for commercial and residential users.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:
File2:
File3:

Signature:
Ben Dawson