

WRITTEN RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

West Gate Tunnel Project

Question asked by: Ms Colleen Hartland (Member for Western Metropolitan)
Directed to: Minister for Agriculture
Asked on: 6 September 2017

SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION

My question is also to Minister Pulford on behalf of Mr Donnellan, the Minister for Roads and Road Safety. My question today is for Minister Donnellan. During the campaign against the east-west link the ALP argued that the then government should release the business case for the project. Now the government is doing the same thing and refusing to release the Allard report, which deals with traffic modelling into the West Gate tunnel, to the West Gate tunnel inquiry and advisory committee. My question for the minister is: how can you expect the committee to do their job without all of the information?

RESPONSE

The Government has released the business case for the West Gate Tunnel Project. It was the first time a Victorian Government had released a full business case at such an early stage of a major infrastructure project.

Extensive, independent transport modelling was included in the Environment Effects Statement for the West Gate Tunnel Project and it shows the project will reduce congestion and slash travel times.

The transport assessment has been prepared by traffic experts and subject to rigorous review and comprehensively refined in the two years since the business case.

This modelling is now subject to the scrutiny of an independent Inquiry and Advisory Committee and they have been provided with extensive documentation, including hundreds of pages of transport modelling, to make their assessment.

Veitch Lister Consulting (VLC) who prepared the transport model, has presented to the panel and been subject to cross examination. VLC has also submitted documents to the panel, which show the modelling is comprehensive, and fit for purpose.



Hon Jaala Pulford MP
Minister for Agriculture