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Customer feedback,  
Roads and Maritime Services  
Locked Bag 928, North Sydney NSW 2059  
[whtbl@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:whtbl@rms.nsw.gov.au).

**Re: Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link – water pollution impacts**

To whom it may concern,

The Sydney Coastal Council (SCCG) appreciates the opportunity to make a submission on the proposed Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches link. SCCG represents 9 estuarine and coastal councils in Sydney and support our councils to have clean and healthy waterways.

Some Councillors from our members are concerned that there may be adverse environmental impacts on water quality in the Sydney and Middle Harbours as a result of construction work associated with the Western Harbour tunnel and Northern Beaches Link Tunnel. Of particular concern are the adverse effects from dust and dredging works which could have detrimental effect on water quality and biodiversity.

SCCG believes rigorous controls and safeguards need to be put in place to reduce any adverse impacts upon our beautiful waterways. The group would welcome further discussions with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) on the development of these controls and safeguards.

SCCG supports its members to achieve important water quality objectives that enable safe swimming at Sydney's harbour and coastal beaches. It is currently working with the NSW Government to deliver a coastal management program (CMP) for Sydney Harbour which was recently announced by the Minister for the Environment Gabrielle Upton MP (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/news/nsw-beaches-cleanest-in-a-decade/>).

A CMP for Sydney Harbour will set the long-term strategy for the coordinated management of the coast with a focus on achieving the objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 2018*. These objectives include protecting and enhancing scenic value, biological diversity and ecosystem integrity and resilience. It will be vital that RMS considers the development of this key policy when designing its environmental controls for the proposed works.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Joyce  
**Executive Officer**

