Dear Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the ‘Clean Air Consultation’ paper.

No1. The problem of cigarette smoke drift has been solved for residents of Strata Title buildings within which by-laws allow for strict policing of smoke drift. However, for owners of houses there is no course of action that I am aware of to remedy this situation. Perhaps the EPA could formulate policies that allow home owners a legal course of action to be followed when the problem of smoke drift becomes more than a minor irritant, let alone a health risk.

No. 2 The problem of air pollution at White Bay Cruise Terminal needs further action. It is good that the cruise industry has agreed to burn only lowish sulphur diesel fuel while at port, but we need to go to the next level.

The residents of Juneau, Alaska, have had the advantage of clean air as a result of ‘shore to ship’ power since 2001. Likewise the residents of Seattle, Vancouver, San Francisco, New York and the Baltic ports have also enjoyed clean air as a result of shore to ship power installation.

The Princess Line operating in North America has 14+ ships able to ‘plug-in’ when at dock and since 2001 has spent $7 million in equipment to enable this to occur. If the Environmental Protection Agencies of North America have come to recognise the benefits of this technology one can only hope that the NSW EPA would come to similar conclusions. Carcinogens, even at so called ‘low levels’ should not be allowed to waft into the atmosphere so close to a crowded residential area, if anywhere.

Dear Sir / Madam,

In 2012 the World Health Organisation declared diesel fumes carcinogenic.

Paris, Madrid, Athens and Mexico City are looking into banning diesel powered vehicles from their city centres.

Only recently the Australian Medical Association’s Vice President Dr. Tony Bartone, said that the rising number of diesel powered vehicles on Australian roads pose a health hazard as they emitted pollutants that have been linked to respiratory diseases and cancer.

From September 2016 to the present day, 58 cruises liners have docked at White Bay Cruise Terminal. Assuming a modest figure of 900 litres of diesel consumption per hour at rest, means that since September 2016, the polluting products of the burning of 495,000 litres of diesel fuel have been dumped into the air adjacent to the densely packed residential area of Balmain.
If the White Bay Cruise Terminal were a chemical factory, it would be closed down overnight for emitting carcinogens!

The EPA must act immediately for the health benefit of the residents of Balmain Peninsula.

Solution: The immediate installation of Shore to Ship power for each and every cruise terminal in NSW and Australia wide generally.

Yours sincerely,

Cornelius van der Weyden.

NSW