

## SUBMISSION 36

**From:** WARREN, Peter  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 25 March 2009 12:24 PM  
**To:** Committee, NCET (REPS)  
**Subject:** Inquiry into the Immigration Bridge Australia Proposal

I make the following observations regarding the proposal as detailed on the web site:

1A. The location of the bridge from Lennox Gardens to Acton Peninsular seems to me to be singularly useless. There is currently very little supporting infrastructure (car parks etc) at the Lennox Gardens end (and little scope to change this) and unless the Lennox Gardens end can be made into a destination in it's own right it is my opinion foot traffic is unlikely to use the bridge to get to or from Acton peninsular. My view is that the inclusion of a new bridge would spoil the appearance of the lake when looking East from west of the proposed bridge, particularly of the view of Commonwealth Avenue bridge. I fail to see how the proposed bridge will improve the heritage value of the lake foreshore.

2. My understanding of the proposal is that the completed bridge will be 'gifted' to the nation. This seems to me to indicate that the ongoing maintenance will become the responsibility of the Commonwealth (or ACT) government which means that the taxpayer will have to foot the bill. Not happy. There is also the ongoing issue of public liability etc should the bridge be built.

There has already been considerable advertising (local television ads) to raise funds to have the bridge built. The advertisements giving the impression that approval to build the bridge has already been given and that construction is about to commence. I suspect that the bulk of the funds will not actually go to the construction of the bridge (especially when including major sponsors contributions) and am somewhat sceptical of the financial machinations.

3. My view is that proper standard procedures for any infrastructure project be applied here. Especially including properly conducted environmental impact assessment by an independent authority.

Finally, we already have a welcome wall in Sydney, admittedly only covering immigrants by boat, which serves a very similar purpose. I have serious doubts about the desirability of building this bridge at all.

Thank you.

Peter Warren