

Tuesday, 11 December 2018

ENVIRO WATCHDOG WARNS OF TOXIC TIMEBOMB AS LIBERALS RUSH STADIUM DEMOLITION

NSW Opposition Leader Michael Daley has warned that in the Liberals' haste to demolish Allianz Stadium, crucial planning approval stages have been ignored which have left a risk that the project might be an environmental disaster waiting to happen.

On Friday, the Liberals announced that as soon as they were granted planning approval for the stadium's demolition they signed a contract to ram through the process ahead of the March 2019 state election.

In their undue haste to begin demolition of the stadium and pursue their wrong priorities, the Liberals are ignoring warnings from the Environmental Protection Agency and from other public agencies across the sector which have catalogued the problems awaiting developers.

They include:

- Hazardous materials in the building's structure including asbestos.
- The potential disturbance of underground petroleum storage units.
- Dust and other debris from 100,000 tonnes of crushed concrete.
- Haulage of waste and dumping, including monitoring of waste removal contractors.
- Potential damage to Busby's Bore, Sydney's first water supply which is under the current structure and may be disturbed without a property survey as to its location.
- Vibration and noise issues for residences and businesses including a local childcare centre

Earlier in the week, Labor revealed that 77 trucks per day during demolition would enter and leave the Moore Park site creating intolerable congestion on local and major roads extending from Sydney Airport and Port Botany to the Sydney CBD. The dust and noise from the year-long demolition is expected to inundate the surrounding suburb.

Mr Daley said the election should be a referendum on the Liberal's \$730 million Allianz rebuild. He said it was time for the Government to call a halt to this madness and rethink its expensive and environmentally hazardous plan.

He repeated his vow that a government he leads will not spend a single cent of taxpayers' dollars on a rebuild but will consider a loan for a modest refurbishment which Premier Berejiklian said could be priced at \$360 million on ABC Radio on Wednesday.

Quotes attributable to NSW Opposition Leader Michael Daley

"It's clear that the Berejiklian Liberal Government will stop at nothing to get its stadium built, including ignoring serious environmental concerns.

"Sending in the wrecking ball before they have done their due diligence in examining hazardous waste is reckless in the extreme.

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“They owe it to the public to do things properly or we are going to see a repeat of the unmitigated disaster that is the Premier’s Sydney Light Rail.”