

31 May, 2024

Hi everyone,

Read Linda Morris in SMH of today May 30 "**Government blunders in published costing of Powerhouse Museum revamp**"

<https://www.smh.com.au/culture/art-and-design/minns-government-blunders-in-costing-of-powerhouse-museum-revamp-20240528-p5jhe6.html>

" Slattery Australia had estimated the costs to be \$350.4 million" when officially publicised costs were \$297M (of which \$50M were to be covered by philanthropy and \$247M by the taxpayer)... "which covered 85 per cent of the cost of the substructure, superstructure, envelope, finishes, fitments, services, and external work. It did not include GST, the costs of the museum's new fitout or the removal of collection objects ahead of demolition works."

The total estimated cost of the destructive project which would reduce the Museum exhibition area to **LESS THAN A QUARTER OF ITS EXISTING SIZE**, is now certainly well over \$500M!

The public, which was invited to comment on the State Significant Development (SSD) Development Application's Environment Impact Statement (EIS), despite the fact that the Business Plan, the Design Brief or the Exhibition Content Program were kept secret, now discovers the \$50M cost overrun just when the exhibition period closed tonight (Thursday May 30).

Is this "the straw that broke the camel's back"? Will the Arts Minister, who promised transparency after a decade of Coalition's secrecy but only delivered more opacity, finally realise the monstrosity of the project?

The public, who spent their own time to prepare and lodge their submissions despite all key documents being kept secret from them, deserve, at least, a generous extension of time to make a revised submission in the light of the new information made available tonight!

Request the Planner to be granted an **EXTENSION OF THE EXHIBITION PERIOD FOR A MINIMUM 2 WEEKS** by emailing to Jennie.Yuan@planning.nsw.gov.au . Copy your request to the Minister for Planning, the Minister for the Arts, the Premier and the Treasury (refer to previous messages for contact details).

Save the Powerhouse



Savethepowerhouse