

10 October 2025**EPA URGED TO FULLY INVESTIGATE CONTROVERSIAL BURSWOOD RACETRACK**

The Save Burwood Park Alliance is urging a full public environmental review of the proposed Perth Entertainment and Sports Precinct, saying documents in the Government's referral of the project to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) do nothing to allay opponents' concerns.

The proposal submitted by the Burwood Park Board and VenuesWest last week claims that constructing the PES, which includes a three-kilometre V8 Supercars racetrack, will have no significant effect on the environment.

Co-chair of the Save Burwood Park Alliance, Dr Robin Harvey, said that a public environmental review (PER) was necessary because the project placed the racetrack and an open-air amphitheatre in the heart of a high-density residential area, directly impacting thousands of residents and negatively affecting many more.

"Burwood Park is an essential green space used every day by nearby residents and their pets. They do not want it replaced with bitumen and concrete including a permanent 12-15-metre-wide racetrack, a pits building, temporary grandstand and a 20,000-seat amphitheatre. There will be very little space left for trees and plants," Dr Harvey said.

"A full PER was required for both the Keysbrook and Kwinana motor racing sites. Only 17 people live within 2km of the Keysbrook site compared with 35,000 to 40,000 people within 2km of the Burwood site, and Kwinana is buffered by an industrial area and setbacks."

Dr Harvey said the referral documents were disturbingly inadequate. Environmental analysis lacked hard data, noise modelling was done at Burwood but not East Perth or Claisebrook, and there was no analysis of the increased heat radiation in the park from the racetrack and other infrastructure.

Surveys to determine impact on flora and fauna were below standard – only a desktop review and one day of field observation of fauna, with results in sharp contrast to locals' observations. There was no mention of the Swan River dolphin pod that regularly visited the area or other riverine aquatic life.

The report on air quality and emissions lacked data relating to motorsports events, contamination issues for the Swan River were not analysed and there were no details of mitigation to prevent runoff into the river of fire retardants, fuel spills and oil, or rubbish from large crowds.

“The contamination data is from June 2025 and outcomes are presented as preliminary, yet since then there has been significant drilling on the site. It is a gross oversight that more current data is not included in the report,” Dr Harvey said.

The proposal also contained statements that the racetrack would be used for ‘motor racing events’ when the Government had repeatedly insisted there would be only one three-day event a year.

“The referral documents provide little information on how major areas of concern for residents, like noise and pollution and destruction of the environment, will be avoided or mitigated,” Dr Harvey said.

“The sham consultations so far, the Government’s disingenuous stance that a permanent racetrack through Burswood Park will ‘enhance existing activities’ and provide ‘benefits for both the local community and everyday park users’ and its refusal to listen to its constituents are causing deep and widespread community concern and anger.

“The best way to deal with this long-standing controversy is to have a full and open review to ensure up-to-date information and thorough analysis is provided and all questions answered satisfactorily before this project goes any further.”

Dr Harvey urged people opposed to the project to lodge a comment on the EPA’s website. The public comment period ends on Thursday (9 October).

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For more information, please contact Dr Robin Harvey on 0419 282 705