

Terms of Reference for the 2023/24 Tunnel Air Quality Review

The Advisory Committee on Tunnel Air Quality (ACTAQ) released a series of technical reports on road tunnel air quality developed by independent experts and NSW agencies. The reports are available here: [Tunnel Air Quality | Chief Scientist \(nsw.gov.au\)](#).

The Minister for Roads has requested that the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer lead a review of these reports, considering recent monitoring data on operating road tunnels in Greater Sydney and the latest information on the health effects of traffic-related air pollution.

The review will provide scientific and technical advice about the potential benefits of installing filtration and air treatment systems in NSW road tunnels.

In providing advice, the Chief Scientist & Engineer will:

- Review the findings and recommendations of studies and reports on the human health effects of traffic-related air pollution, including but not confined to the following:
 - The Advisory Committee on Tunnel Air Quality Technical papers and Initial Report on Tunnel Air Quality
 - The Environmental Impact Statements and related technical reviews for NorthConnex, M4East, M4-M5 Link, new M5, M6 Stage 1 and Western Harbour Tunnel
 - *Health impacts associated with traffic emissions in Australia. Expert Position Statement* by The University of Melbourne
 - other relevant contemporary research on the health effects of transport-related air pollution
- Review the air quality monitoring data from operating motorway tunnels across the Greater Sydney network and impact on ambient air quality
- Consider the effectiveness and relative costs of tunnel filtration and air treatment systems for removing particles, nitrogen dioxides and other pollutants from air emitted from tunnel ventilation outlets.

The Review will be overseen by the ACTAQ and chaired by the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer. The Terms of Reference and membership for the ACTAQ are at [Tunnel Air Quality | Chief Scientist \(nsw.gov.au\)](#).

In consultation with ACTAQ and the Office of the Chief Scientist & Engineer, Transport for NSW will engage qualified independent experts and provide Secretariat support.