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Your Submission to the TPC Review: I have been a researcher and historian of national infrastructure development for over four decades.

Research shows that over that time, there have been numerous cases whereby proponents show proponent bias, ie overstating the purported benefits of projects, while downplaying disbenefits.

That has been the case, whether a project is public funded privately funded, or some combination thereof eg PPP/BOOT scheme.

Too often, the purportedly financial and employment opportunities are overstated, while social and environmental disbenefits are downplayed, while in many cases, superior alternatives are ignored. Suboptimal outcomes, significant cost blowouts and significant waste of taxpayer/public funds result.

Too often, politicians and bureaucrats become overly-enthusiastic about “dollars, jobs and growth” and ‘forget’ the negatives, and the opportunity cost impacts.

There is every indication that the changes that will result from the TPC review and Major Project Legislation will exacerbate these above-stated problems, via loss of process independence.

Thank you

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