# And you thought it would be Metro

Re the jade beagle’s pantheon of ignominy. Hot favourite, with heavy support – in more ways than one – for inaugural inductee was Sydney Metro.

So hot the Victorian government ran a story about a train line around the Melbourne metropolitan area – aka the known world. Circling the carriages so to speak to keep the savages at bay.[[1]](#endnote-1)

Soon to be known as the S-bend railway, ending up near Werribee once famed for sewage works. A $50bn insane waste? No way - some put it at one hundred billion dollars – just like Dr Evil sought.[[2]](#endnote-2)

NSW hit back with even bigger lies than before – Sydney Trains downgraded further to carry only 20,000 people an hour but Metro upgraded and will carry 46,000 per hour.[[3]](#endnote-3)

Then a demonstration from big town on real delivery: the world’s worst park in the middle of some Westconnex spaghetti; a balloon crippling the existing railway (note media headline – technical issue); a spirited defence of yet another light rail lawsuit – this time with ‘I’m sad that it has got to this’. Not quite *‘how did things ever get so far. I don’t know. It was so unfortunate, so unnecessary’* but then….[[4]](#endnote-4)

The beagle boycotted both. It says real desperation will only be seen when the Epping-Chatswood line closes for 7 months or so, and the NSW election draws nigh. Acceptance of Metro nomination now would not reveal its splendid glory. But the beagle implied there might be a special place for it and its proponents. And Victoria: what would Dr Evil say about $100 billion?[[5]](#endnote-5)

Other States?

No nomination of a Bass Strait tunnel or bridge. Tasmania lucks out.[[6]](#endnote-6)

West Australia, home of da economic girlie man. A mere whinge about the GST carve up – nothing of interest there. Still.

South Australia? The head of one of the big 4 banks said its now a good place to do business. While no doubt a slur on the recently deposed dreadful anti-bank business socialistic Turnbull-like gumment its hardly an endorsement all might want during the Royal Commission. While there is nothing yet from the driest state in the driest country its worth watching for something like a multi-billion-dollar freight bypass of the Adelaide Hills, in fact of all Adelaide. We wait in hope.[[7]](#endnote-7)

Queensland, last week it was a bigger cow, this week its dams. Who cares.[[8]](#endnote-8)

ACT/NT. The numbers hard men couldn’t get the count right. Write your own story.[[9]](#endnote-9)

Rather, the inaugural inductee is from the Commonwealth. No, not the State of our – yawn – cities. Which actually don’t belong to the Commonwealth.

But boring old s.96. The bit of the Constitution egging on Commonwealth Departmental irresponsibility, overlooked by every recent review and making one and all lose their way onto ‘productivity’ road.

Leading to lies, fabrications, falsehoods and worse, besides stooged-up studies and data. Its popular too – especially among those who say Federation isn’t working.

So there. Coming shortly.

And the further $500m bailout of the Sydney light rail project, via a loan guaranteed by the NSW government – which the Minister was a little coy about? You may as well do a re-run of Sandy the dog to try to distract the beagle. Your day will come![[10]](#endnote-10)

**1 August 2018**

1. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-29/victorian-rail-suburban-loop-plan-divides-experts/10179340> [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.news.com.au/national/victoria/news/premiers-rail-plan-could-double-in-cost-to-whopping-100-billion-opposition-says/news-story/3dc1cbc30b7e035dfb31c795022831bb>

   And <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1z-AxgueBRk> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/.../nsw/...trains...sydneys.../033349fde1e9bb52dd627>... [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/world-s-worst-park-westconnex-s-new-st-peters-spaghetti-junction-20180814-p4zxel.html>

   <https://www.news.com.au/national/nsw-act/commuter-chaos-as-technical-issue-causes-major-delays-on-sydney-trains/news-story/3ec4c50ff3d1a1eb816a93d816318b82>

   <https://www.news.com.au/national/breaking-news/syd-businesses-launch-light-rail-lawsuit/news-story/b324b4021939990a1345b81e3f93312a>

   <https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/The_Godfather>

   <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jpwqWPKAUc> [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7edeOEuXdMU> [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. <https://www.examiner.com.au/story/1979426/strait-tunnel-considered/> [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. <https://www.murrayvalleystandard.com.au/story/5504901/tender-issued-for-monarto-airport-freight-bypass/> [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-30/giant-dams-report-northern-australia/10181682> [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
9. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/aug/23/peter-duttons-backers-claim-they-nearly-have-the-numbers-to-seize-power-from-turnbull> [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
10. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-31/sydney-light-rail-faces-questions-over-500-million-bailout/10188482> [↑](#endnote-ref-10)