



Gladys Berejiklian MP

Minister for Transport

MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY ASKED TO HELP NAME SECOND NORTH WEST RAIL LINK TUNNEL BORING MACHINE

Minister for Transport Gladys Berejiklian today said the community is being given the chance to name the second huge North West Rail Link tunnel boring machine that will be in the ground by the end of this year.

“The students of the North West named the first machine Elizabeth, and now we are calling on the wider community to have some fun,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“With Elizabeth due in the ground at Bella Vista in October, it’s time to now turn our attention to naming her colleague – with the second massive tunnel boring machine also due to start drilling at Bella Vista before the end of this year.”

The first tunnel boring machine is already on route via the South China Sea to Australia, and the second is also on its way from France via China.

On major tunnelling projects around the world, underground workers look to Saint Barbara for protection and, because of that, machines that work underground are traditionally given female names.

Like the way Elizabeth was named, the competition has the theme: ‘Women who have made a positive contribution to life in Sydney’. The winner will be taken on an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the tunnel boring machine and the tunnelling site.

“You can put forward a historical or contemporary figure, a community leader, a local champion, sportswoman or an unsung hero – all you have to do is make your case for why these people deserve a special place in our city’s history,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“The North West Rail Link will change public transport in Sydney forever so it’s fitting that these massive machines will be named after women who have made a positive contribution to life in this great city.”

Four tunnel boring machines will deliver the twin 15km railway tunnels between Bella Vista and Epping – Australia’s longest railway tunnels. The community will also have the chance to name the third machine, and the fourth will be named by tunnel workers.

For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthWestRailLink> or <http://nwrail.transport.nsw.gov.au/Competition/Tunnel-Boring-Machine-Competition>