



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 330

16 September 1974

SUBURBAN RAILWAY LINE EXTENSION - EAST HILLS TO GLENFIELD

The Prime Minister, Mr. Whitlam, today reassured residents of East Hills in Sydney that the Australian Government would protect their interests in planning the route of the suburban railway line extension from East Hills to Glenfield.

Mr. Whitlam was commenting on fears expressed by residents that the railway extension would result in the wholesale resumption of private homes.

The Prime Minister added that the New South Wales Government was seeking financial assistance for the railway extension under the Urban Public Transport Agreement. Under this agreement, the Australian Government contributes two-thirds of the cost of urban transport improvement projects which are approved by the Australian Minister for Transport.

Mr. Whitlam confirmed that officials of the Australian Department of Transport are currently assessing the potential routes for the railway extension in consultation with New South Wales officials and other Australian Government departments. The Prime Minister concluded that he was confident a plan will be achieved which will minimise the impact of the project on all parties.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.