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DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES  
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# Project's progress marked

BY MEG FRANCIS

LOCAL school students have marked a significant addition to the construction of Australia's longest road with a name incorporating the Hills' past and present.

Pennant Hills Public School dubbed NorthConnex's latest piece of construction machinery 'Meehan Demon'.

Hornsby State Liberal MP Matt Kean said NorthConnex challenged students from Pennant Hills Public School to name this awesome machine and in the end there was a standout choice.

"In all, more than 570 submissions were received as part of the naming contest, but in the end Meehan Demon was chosen as the winner," Mr Kean said.

Meehan is the surname of James Meehan, who helped forge Pennant Hills Road and Demon is the mascot name of the Pennant Hills AFL club.

"This name is a tribute to

the area's past and our present as Meehan Demon works on building our future," Mr Kean said.

Meehan Demon is a 100 tonne machine with 'teeth' that will gradually 'chew' through the rock underneath Pennant Hills, advancing at about five metres per day.

"This naming competition is one of many opportunities for local school children to

learn about safety, environment and sustainability, using the NorthConnex tunnel and excavation activities as an example," Mr Kean said.

"NorthConnex has been doing great work engaging with local schools and providing the community with an insight into one of Australia's largest infrastructure projects."

Berowra Federal Liberal MP Julian Leeser said that the NorthConnex project team is working to generate interest in science, technology, engineering and maths

subjects to inspire our future engineers, builders and project managers.

"NorthConnex will transform our road network and leave a lasting legacy for our local community," Mr Leeser said.

NorthConnex will deliver twin tunnels running nine kilometres linking the M1 Pacific Motorway at Wahroonga to the Hills M2 Motorway at West Pennant Hills.

The project is expected to be completed in late 2019.

■ Details: [northconnex.com.au](http://northconnex.com.au).



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DUBBED: Hornsby MP Matt Kean, NorthConnex Steve Cornish and Berowra MP Julian Leeser with principal Anita Corney and students.