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The duo behind the Aussie found-footage sensation THE TUNNEL is preparing to jump into a follow-up feature, which has just received its financing from Screen Australia.

Screen Daily reports that Distracted Media’s Enzo Tedeschi and Julian Harvey, who wrote and produced the original, are developing THE TUNNEL: DEAD END, in which the sister of the character Tangles (played by Luke Arnold in THE TUNNEL) heads into the subterranean catacombs beneath Sydney to find out what happened to him. “Initially, we weren’t anticipating doing another TUNNEL film,” the filmmakers told the trade, “but the overwhelmingly positive reaction to the original, as well as our fans clamoring for another on an almost daily basis, made us go back and give it a second thought. We weren’t going to go ahead unless we could find a story we were 100 percent behind, which we now have and are thrilled to have the support of Screen Australia.”

Tedeschi and Harvey are also using the 135k Project crowd-funding model to finance another genre picture, the ALIEN-esque sci-fi thriller AIRLOCK. “THE TUNNEL: DEAD END is a great opportunity to take Distracted Media into a different playing field,” they said, “but as producers we still very much believe in the basic principles of the 135k Project. Having a more mainstream film in THE TUNNEL: DEAD END will enable us to up the stakes significantly with AIRLOCK, which will hopefully raise the bar for our free internet releases and what we can put back into their success.” Tedeschi and Harvey discuss the original TUNNEL with us here .