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**To:** <urbanrenewal@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 4/19/2013 3:41 pm  
**Subject:** Cutting the Rail into Newcastle

To whom it may concern.

I apologise for the lateness and brevity of my small submission about this matter. I work full time and have only now come to do this.

I am a resident of inner city Newcastle and although not born here, have lived almost my whole adult life in this area. I am about to retire and look forward to the time when i will be able to travel to Sydney from time to time to visit friends and to go to the theatre. I know from others who do the same that the service into Newcastle Station is widely patronised and when i have used the station in the past have found it to be so, at all hours of the day and night.

I submit that the determination to close the rail into Newcastle is so short-sighted as to be comic (if only it were funny). The University has just been granted money to extend the inner city campus. What is the point of pulling up the railway when there will be many students relying on getting to the campus by public transport? Many of my International students ( I teach International students) decry the lack of public transport in Newcastle already. What stupidity to get rid of a valuable transport corridor that would be a brilliant means of transport for all of these students and of course the existing community.

As well as the University's plans, there are plans to extend the existing Art Gallery (although currently under consideration). What is the point of having a bustling inner City without good public transport? These two recent developments will be a drawcard for a growing population who will welcome the presence of a good public transport system close to these facilities.

I am afraid that my submission will be given scant regard. I am cynical enough to realise that the State Government want to get their hands on this land and sell it off to developers who will then proceed to build some fairly ordinary highrise buildings which will block any sense of the fact that Newcastle is in fact a harbourside city.

Newcastle is an historic city, that has contributed much to the State coffers and received very little in return. Any decision to waste money pulling up the rail will be seen as yet another example of Sydney's dereliction of duty to regional areas.

I write in sadness at what you are considering and urge you to try to think about the future of this city. The State Government, along with local developers are busy dismantling our proud city as quickly as they can.

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