

urbanrenewal - Revitalise Newcastle Submission [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

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Subject: Revitalise Newcastle Submission [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Sirs,

I would like to add my voice of dissent to the proposal to remove the Wickham to Newcastle rail line and replace the train service with buses. What a backward step for space utilisation and pollution, let alone inconvenience to commuters! Wasn't the Darling Harbour area revitalised by the provision of a light rail and not the opposite?

As a Toronto home owner I was extremely disappointed when we lost the Toronto to Fassifern rail link many years ago. The costings put forward for doing so were entirely fallacious. In preparation for producing the costings, the NSW Rail Dept. switched the stopping location of fast trains from Fassifern to Morisset. I suspect such underhandedness is going on in the present costing as well.

If we want to revitalise Newcastle we want to make it easier for commuters, businessmen and the buying public to get into it, not more difficult. And what about freight? That won't be switched to buses. There will be a need for more polluting trucks to carry that from Wickham to the centre.

Your sincerely

John Newman
Australian Embassy
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