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Our Ref: SORNSWInc.lt130206bh

The Hon. B.R. Hazzard BA, DipEd MLA,, NSW Minister for Planning, Level 31, Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney, NSW 2000. Wednesday 6th February 2013

NEWCASTLE URBAN RENEWAL STRATEGY

Dear Minister Hazzard,

The members of Save Our Rail have instructed me to request that the exhibition period for the Newcastle Urban Strategy be extended to, we suggest 30th June 2013 for the following reasons:

- There has been in recent days some confusion as to what the objects of this proposal are, particularly relating to comments by Hunter Development Corporation (HDC) on the Newcastle ABC radio. If HDC is confused about what is being planned then it becomes more difficult for any ordinary citizens to make a rational response.
- At this time members inform us that the relevant documents are not yet available at the Honeysuckle Offices of the Department for them to be able to make a useful response to the Strategy.
- As there are more than 200 pages of information to digest and respond to, this is a
 daunting task for those who are not funded by the government to achieve in their
 own time at their own cost.
- There are a number of initiatives extant such as the proposed workshop and public briefing pending with you and your advisors which must have relativity to the process.

As we have been enjoying this historic passenger rail service into Newcastle these last 150 years the importance of getting the response to the proposal accurate and to the benefit of the whole community is an onerous one for all concerned.

Thank you in anticipation.

George Paris.

Yours sincerely

Secretary Save Our Rail NSW Inc.

8 FEB 2013