

# Two More Trains For Singleton

A campaign for two additional daily passenger rail services from Newcastle to Singleton

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C/- 45 Barton Ave  
Singleton 2330

1 October 2010

Mr Anthony Wing  
General Manager - Transport and General Prices Oversight  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC)  
GPO Box 520  
MELBOURNE 3001

Dear Sir

## **Submission - Australian Rail Track Corporation proposed Hunter Valley Network Access Undertaking**

I refer to the public exhibition of the ACCC Consultation Paper in relation to the Australian Rail Track Corporation's (ARTC) proposed Hunter Valley Network Access Undertaking. Two More Trains for Singleton is a community group based in the Hunter Valley and wishes to make a submission in relation to this proposal.

Two More Trains for Singleton is seeking additional passenger services between Maitland, Singleton and the Upper Hunter Valley. The group has more than 1000 supporters who have signed its petition seeking an improved passenger rail service between Singleton and Newcastle.

The group has undertaken a review of passenger demand and the opportunity for providing the additional services and has made a number of submissions to RailCorp, CityRail and the NSW Government regarding this important community initiative.

The ARTC's proposed Hunter Valley Rail Network Access Undertaking must provide for additional passenger rail services now and into the future. In particular, the Undertaking and regulatory framework should emphasise passenger priority and should note the public interest benefits of allowing for increased passenger services now and into the future at reasonable cost.

Issues that should be considered are as follows:

- 1 The recent upgrading of track in the Hunter Valley has not given consideration to the provision of infrastructure for improving passenger access to the network. This should be a priority.
- 2 Passenger rail provides significant environmental, health and social benefits over the road transport system and should be encouraged now. In the long term, rail will be the preferred transport mode for many journeys between the Upper Hunter, Sydney and Newcastle.
- 3 Population growth as a result of coal mining developments is significantly increasing demands for passenger rail services in the area.

The Two More Trains for Singleton group supports the request by RailCorp as outlined in its letter to the ACCC of 3 July 2009 for the Access Undertaking to ensure that public transport requirements are acknowledged and provided for in the long term.

Thanks for the opportunity to make a submission.

yours sincerely



Pauline Davoren  
for Two More Trains For Singleton

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