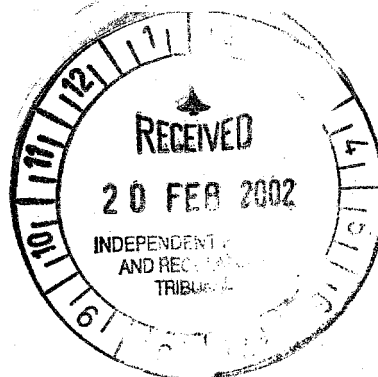


IPART  
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February 18, 2002

Dr T Parry  
Chairman  
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal  
PO Box Q290  
QVB PO, NSW 1230



Dear Dr Parry,

**Determination of Passenger Transport Fares from July 2002**

From March, 2002 the company that I work for will be relocating their Information Technology Department to the Homebush Bay Area (Olympic Park). I understand it is the Governments intention to develop the site for both residential and business use. My concern is the pricing policy that is used by Cityrail to the Olympic Park Station. As I understand from previous determinations travelling to the Olympic Park Station requires an add on to the train fare to either Lidcombe or Strathfield but I cannot see the reason for this practice. Lets look at some examples to see how this is unjust.

1. Quakers Hill to the City – Cost of Yearly ticket \$1438 travelling 43.3 Km
2. Quakers Hill to Chatswood – Cost of Yearly ticket \$1561 travelling 52.94 Km
3. Quakers Hill to Olympic Park – Cost of Yearly ticket \$1594 travelling 23.51 Km
4. Quakers Hill to Flemington – Cost of Yearly ticket \$1232 travelling 25.77 Km

As you can see from the above examples the additional cost will only encourage the use of Car travel to the Olympic Park site. In addition to the extra cost of travelling to Olympic Park Station CityRail is reducing the number of services with the introduction of the new timetable in April. The number of services from Lidcombe to Olympic Park is to be reduced from 6 per hour to 4 per hour and all direct links to the City have been cancelled. If one looks at the bus timetable to the area you find it's the train or car.

There are also some inconsistencies in the way the surcharge operates depending on whether you travel through Strathfield. For example, A yearly ticket from Burwood to Lidcombe is \$822 and a yearly ticket from Burwood to Olympic Park is \$1142. But what happens if you travel to Olympic Park from the West or South West. A yearly ticket from Yagoona or Harris Park to Lidcombe is also \$822. But, a yearly ticket from either Yagoona or Harris Park to Olympic Park is \$1265. Why?

I recommend that the surcharge to the Olympic Park station be removed. If the tribunal sees a need for the surcharge perhaps they would consider removing the surcharge for holders of periodic tickets to the Olympic Park Station.

Your Sincerely

*S. Holroyd*

Steven Holroyd