

**INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL ACT 1992
PRIVATE BUS INDUSTRY FARE REVIEW**

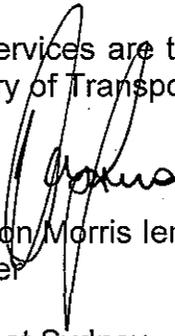
I, Morris Iemma, Premier, pursuant to Section 9(2) of the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992*, approve the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal entering into an arrangement with the Ministry of Transport for a period of one year from the date hereof to provide services to the Ministry that are within its area of expertise. The services to be provided by IPART are the conduct of an investigation into, and the preparation of a report concerning, fares for regular commercial bus services under the *Passenger Transport Act 1990* that operate in rural and regional areas.

In providing these services, the Tribunal should consider:

- i) the cost of providing the services concerned;
- ii) relativities with the Government owned bus services, including in terms of service, efficiency, cost and ticketing products;
- iii) the protection of consumers from abuses of monopoly power in terms of prices, pricing policies and standards of service;
- iv) the need for greater efficiency in the supply of services so as to reduce costs for the benefit of consumers;
- v) the impact of pricing policies on borrowing and capital requirements and, in particular, the impact of any need to renew or increase relevant assets;
- vi) the need to maintain ecologically sustainable development;
- vii) the social impact of the recommendations;
- viii) standards of quality, reliability and safety of the services concerned (whether those standards are specified by legislation, agreement or otherwise and any suggested or actual changes to those standards); and
- ix) the effect of any pricing recommendation on the level of Government funding provided to private operators under commercial contracts.

The services to be provided by the Tribunal will include a public consultation process through which the Tribunal will invite submissions from the Bus and Coach Association, the relevant unions and other stakeholder groups including the general community.

The services are to be provided through the provision of a final report to the Ministry of Transport by 19 December 2008.


The Hon Morris Iemma MP
Premier

Dated at Sydney... 30 June 2008