

To: The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

Re: Ferry Fare Review

From: Ian Abbottsmith

Last year I made a submission to the IPART Ferry Fare Review outlining how structural changes to the operational network could save on the number of ferries needed through the day including the peaks and also provide increased flexibility of crew placement. Such opportunity provided for significant financial benefit to Sydney Ferries and reduced the strain on fleet resources which have been severely tested for a number of years.

The tribunal accepted my suggestions and I believe made it a condition that requests for fare increases this year would be contingent upon Sydney Ferries having conducted a review of operations to determine improved logistical dimensions for operations in terms of ferry routes and timetables.

I am not aware of progress with this vital work and so ask that the tribunal investigate the situation and stand by its' recommendations last year.

I re-emphasise that restructuring of some routes and timetables where opportunity exists to do so without reducing customer service saves resources, provides greater flexibility and reduces the pressure on many areas of the Sydney Ferries organization.

My letter to you last year, which would be on file, provides significant outline of the proposals. If you would like to discuss any details of the suggestions I'd be happy to do so.

Regards,
Ian Abbottsmith