

17 October 2008

Re: Price increase to rail travel.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to express my distress over the increase in the fares for rail tickets in New South Wales. I travel from Sydney South West daily and this trip can take anywhere from 50 minutes on a good day (and they are not often) to an hour ten minutes. On most days the trains are old smelly, dirty (need to be washed not just the rubbished picked up.) and without air conditioning. We are generally packed in like animals and most of us are forced to stand the distance on our journey. For this we pay \$37.00 a week. For people like myself there is no other option then to travel by train, so when the system fails we are left stranded. I sat on Circular Quay Station Tuesday night for over an hour due to a faulty train in Wynyard. This meant that I arrived at my station at 11.00pm at night for me to have to turn around 7 am Wednesday catch another train back to work.

Another point made in the IPART report is that the average income of people travelling during peak times \$97917.00. I don't know where you people get your information but the train has been buzzing over this and I am yet to find any household that travels on my trains that has that sort of income. I personally don't even break the \$50000, so the extra expense is a big deal in my household.

It is time that the rail system delivered a service that is worthy of charging more before they increase there prices.