

## "Sue Soker"

I am a train commuter travelling over 15 hours a week, 5 days a week from Woy Woy to Sydney. I am quite astounded that RailCorp has the nerve to even think about increasing rail fares when the New South Wales rail system is a national disgrace. Therefore I would like to submit my reasons why RailCorp should give serious consideration to the public's views on why the rail fares in New South Wales should not be increased until they get their act together and:

1. clean up the train carriages inside and out. The seats are disgusting. I got on the 5.17pm Wyong train last week, went to sit down and someone had decided to leave a pool of spit on a seat, so therefore that seat was out of action from wherever the "animal" who left the spit left the train, to the end of the line at Wyong. This is one episode in as many;

2. one night this week (again the 5.17pm Wyong train) a lady was seating on the end of a three seater, got up and the seat caved in. Again, yet another seat out of action on an already overcrowded train to Wyong;

3. clean up the toilets, they are absolutely disgusting. I would rather be in agony with my legs crossed then go within a foot of a train toilet.

3. look at their peak timetables. Obviously something is not working. My nearest station is Wynyard, yet I have to go backwards and get a train to Town Hall in order to be able to get a seat on the Wyong train. If I get on at Wynyard more often then not I can't get a seat which means I have to stand until Hornsby. By the time the train gets to North Sydney, people are standing in the aisles. Doesn't that say something to RailCorp that it needs to put more trains on at peak times over the whole rail network. I've still yet to work out why my train stops at Berowra for at least 5 minutes if not longer when all passengers have alighted the train in the first minute of stopping;

4. John Watkins, the Transport Minister mentioned last week a comparison of Sydney fares with London. I live in Sydney, not London. If London wants to charge what it does, that's their business. I want a rail system which works and justifies me paying \$178 a month.

If RailCorp rectify any of the above, it will be a miracle, but if they show the public that they are willing to listen and improve the rail system, then may be a small increase in fares is justifiable, but not until.

Disgruntled Commuter