

West Coast Heritage Centre, Zeehan



West Coast Heritage Ltd ABN 92 065 480 131

PO Box 70 Zeehan TAS 7469 Ph 03 6471 6225 Fax 03 6471 6650 Email wch.ltd@bigpond.com

Website www.westcoastheritagecentrezeehan.com.au

10/1/2013

Mr. Tom Wise
Clerk of Committees
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Hobart 7000



Dear Mr. Wise,

Re: Submission Rural Road Speed Limits.

I have lived and worked on the West Coast of Tasmania all my adult life. I drive around 35,000 Kms a year on roads all over Tasmania and hold an unrestricted multi combination license.

My full time job is currently Executive Director of West Coast Heritage at Zeehan and from time to time I do relief truck driving for a West Coast contractor at Queenstown. My submission is that the lowering of the rural sealed road speed limit from 100 KM/H will be detrimental to the people that work and live in those areas.

Whilst all our sealed roads could be in better condition, all are capable of being driven on at 100 Klm per hour at varying sections. In saying that, the average speed is nowhere near the limit.

By my calculations, my average speed on our rural sealed roads is between 72 and 76 Klm per hour.

I travel to and from Launceston most weeks via Burnie. The average on a good run is 90.9 Klm per hour given that half the distance is covered by a 110 Klm/h speed limit.

My observations of other road users are that inattention is a major cause of crashes and near misses. It only takes a split second to happen and reducing the maximum limit I don't think will make any difference.

I also find more bad behavior on the 110 Klm/h signed roads with drivers insisting on overtaking vehicles and heavy vehicles which are already moving at the limit.

West Coast Heritage Centre, Zeehan



West Coast Heritage Ltd ABN 92 065 480 131

PO Box 70 Zeehan TAS 7469 Ph 03 6471 6225 Fax 03 6471 6650 Email wch.ltd@bigpond.com

Website www.westcoastheritagecentrezeehan.com.au

Living at Zeehan it is 300 Klm to Hobart, 300 to Launceston and 133 to Burnie, our closest regional centre. Reducing our limit to go from 100 will only prolong the journey.

Over time such a move must add cost to road transport and for us that means a rise in the cost of living and a cost increase to all businesses in our region.

Educating drivers to drive to the conditions and that the maximum speed limit is just that, the maximum would be better than a reduction.

Yours faithfully,

Phillip Vickers
Executive Director