Natasha Exel

Subject:

FW: Legislative Council Government Administration Committee 'B' North East Railway Corridor Inquiry

Thank you for your prompt response.

My submission relates to the importance of Bridestowe Lavender Farm which is attracting 85,000 visitations a year and the proprietor is wanting tourist rail, but not being listened to by Dorset Council Launceston City Council are cognisant on its importance to Launceston economic well being and accommodation for its quality hotels { refer Mercury 31st October article by Ms Tetlow Northern Development }

2. Climate change and the imposition road transport will face on reducing diesel emissions currently before Federal parliament.

{Absurd recommendation by Dorset Council to turn Meredith Sidling into a road for : B : DOUBLES when Nabowla Road has had millions spent on it and will connect with Eastern By Pass via Vermont Road and Faraday Street at Waverley ,Ravenswood. when Launceston gets it act together.

- 3. Defence requirement during both World Wars rail was integral to the viability of the north east and its towns.
- 4. Towns such as Derby ,Winnaleah ,Legerwood , Branxholm and Herrick have lost their rail connection and residents. This section of line was a significant tourist asset , even Ms.Rattray father the late Colin Rattray stated in the Winnaleah Hotel to a Mr.Rosier :I did not realise what we were losing :.The late Ron Johnstone campaigned to save the line.
- 5. As an Oil Distributor during a fuel and transport strike, the writer was able to send 15 rail cars of fuel to Scottsdale so industry did not grind to a halt.
- 6. The high end tourist market would be an advantage to the area Scottsdale has not had a major hotel development since 1962 and the former Kendalls Hotel motels need refurbishing.
- 7. Army Food Research for its exports is reliant on road transport, how do the cope in crisis situation?

Finally the writer has had a response from the minister for infrastructure, which i will forward under separate forms cover. The minister and your committee must investigate the \$1.75 billion joint state, federal fund to upgrade tracks and platforms that other states are accessing. Surely with our abundance of electricity this state should be electrifying its rail corridors as an insurance to reduce congestion in our cities and being self sufficient and not depending on imported fuel, where we are vulnerable in time of crisis.

The Parliament of Tasmania closed down our highly productive Tasmanian Railways which trained our skilled trades men and the Tool Annexe was a vital cog in the 2nd World War.

It is :Ironic: that the Vice Chancellor of the University of Tasmania along with former Federal Cabinet Minister Warwick Smith are addressing this skilled shortage, which could have been avoided by listening to economic rationalists who have risked the security of this country, because of the lack of skilled trades men. Give me men to match our mountains, Give me men to match our plains, Give me men with vision in their brains "Premiers Reece and Bethune were such men.

Brian P. Khan