

## Defend Your Train

A preliminary Government report released on 8th September has recommended the permanent replacement of Countrylink trains with buses.

The interim report is from the Parry Inquiry. It casts doubt on the future of all regional passenger trains, except those that travel between the capital cities, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. In the north of the state, trains to Gunnedah, Narrabri, Moree, Tamworth, Armidale, Lismore and Murwillumbah are all under threat. The NSW minister for transport, Michael Costa, has strongly indicated that he would like to withdraw the passenger train services to Armidale and to Murwillumbah and replace them with buses.

The Friends of the Northern Railway believes rural passengers deserve better than a bus service. We believe that we deserve the comfort, speed, safety, and on-board convenience that trains offer.

If you agree with us we strongly urge you to write to the Inquiry. It will continue to receive submissions up until Friday, 10th October, prior to publishing the final report.

Let the Chair, Dr Tom Parry, know your view. Briefly set out why you prefer the train and why you consider it an important service for your region or for the country region to which you travel.

The threat is very real. Unless we act soon we are sure to lose our trains.

Please write to Dr Parry.

Address your letter to:

**Ministerial Inquiry into Public Passenger Transport  
c/- Ministry of Transport  
GPO Box 1620  
SYDNEY NSW 2001**

Submissions can also be made by email to:

**[inquiry@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:inquiry@transport.nsw.gov.au)**

The interim Parry report can be obtained from the NSW government web site: [www.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nsw.gov.au)  
Follow the link to "Ministerial Inquiry into Public Passenger Transport".

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**Please take this paper away with you and keep it.**

**Can you help our campaign? If you would like to make a donation towards our printing and other costs, please send it to The Friends of the Northern Railway at:**

PO Box 319, Armidale, NSW, 2350

**For more information on the campaign or how to join the FONR, or to offer to help, visit our web site at:**

**[www.fonr.org.au](http://www.fonr.org.au)**

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