

**Sent:** Friday, 7 November 2008 2:49 PM

**Subject:** submission to proposed fare increases for trains

Dear Sir/Madam

i would like to indicate my concern over the proposal to raise train fares by up to 17 %.

i travel to work every day by train. I live at Engadine which is about 30 km from the city.

I do not believe the service provided at present justifies such a large price increase - particularly at a difficult economic time. For example, once a week there is an issue with the trains. The morning train usually runs late at least one day per week. Say, once a month or two on the way home the train breaks down and i have to change to another train. Over the last year i have not seen as many security staff on the trains at night, whereas i remember seeing them in previous years, so the safety of passengers has been reduced.

on top of that, at the last election the NSW government was to improve public transport services, and not increase CEO and other senior staff pays unless this improvement happened. I understand a number of these staff have been given pay increases . So staff are better off and yet the public continues to suffer - the public should at least have the same fares as last year (or just a small increase of 3%) , and extra savings should be obtained through staff and administrative efficiencies.

As well, the NSW government has sought to decrease carbon emissions, and one way to do this is to reduce the use of cars and go by public transport. Less people will go by train (and therefore emissions will be increased) if there is a large fare rise.