

INQUIRY INTO INTER-REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Organisation: Kiama Alpine Club
Name: Ms Liz Wynn
Position: President
Date Received: 16/05/2012

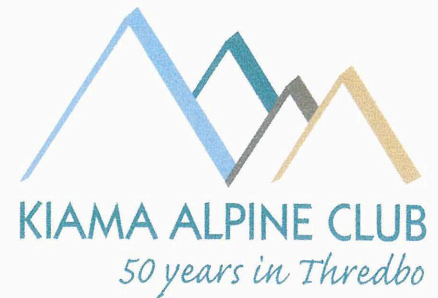
14 May 2012

The Chair – Andrew Gee MP

State and Regional Development Committee

Parliament House - Macquarie Street

Sydney NSW 2000



Re – INQUIRY INTO INTER REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT

SNOWY MOUNTAINS REGION

Dear Sir,

We make this submission to the above inquiry in a constructive effort to have Country Link provide a transport service beyond Cooma to Jindabyne and to Thredbo Village – a year round tourist destination. Our not for profit organisation, owns and operates the 30 bed Kiama Ski Club Lodge in Thredbo on behalf of its 370 members.

Today there exists a public transport void beyond Cooma into the snowy mountains villages.

- This is the section of the existing Country link service that needs urgent attention.
- The network linkage of Country link train and coach services is catered for between Canberra and Cooma only at present.
- Country link could benefit tourism markedly in this region if it were to provide a basic coach service beyond Cooma into Jindabyne and the resort towns – particularly Thredbo which operates as a tourist destination year round.
- A simple coach service to these snowy towns would be of great benefit. For example in Thredbo there is a large youth hostel catering for youth and overseas visitors, there are 40 not for profit club lodges, plus commercial lodges all suffering from reduced tourist numbers at present and access by public transport is one common problem faced by all.
- Kosciuszko National Park is one of NSWs prestige parks and whilst NPWS is making efforts to increase the public's access to and use of the park and its attractions, this is not being supported by Govt in the provision of transport services to this major tourism region.

On behalf of our 370 members, the majority of whom reside well outside the Snowy and Monaro region, we seek your committees favourable consideration of this submission to ensure that inter regional public transport can better serve the needs of regional NSW and the Snowy Region in particular.

Yours Sincerely ,

Liz Wynn - President