

Submission

No 7

INQUIRY INTO THE UTILISATION OF RAIL CORRIDORS

Name: Mr Jonathan O'Dea MP

Position: Member for Davidson

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As a MP with 5 rail stations in my electorate I cautiously welcome the Committee's investigation of this topic.

Other than obvious environmental considerations of local communities, leasing or selling near operating rail infrastructure can involve complex technical and legal issues.

Any contract between RailCorp and contractor should protect the integrity and safety of rail assets; as well as unobstructed access for the commuting public and for rail asset maintenance.

There should also be clear responsibilities for maintenance of areas that may be of joint use.

I am aware that some years ago a private owner of hotel property over North Sydney station resisted carrying out remedial work to ensure safe track operation because it was not clear in the contract who was responsible. The dispute could have been proactively avoided.