Submission No 15

INQUIRY INTO NSW TAXI INDUSTRY

Name: Mr Kenneth Preece

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The taxi needs in the Sydney/metro districts are completely different to those in the country districts. eg in the Maitland taxi district there only 2 periods a week and only for approximately 2 to 3 hrs on sat & sun mornings that all taxis are busy the rest of the week a driver would not earn on average approximately 8.00 p/h, so we cant get drivers for some day and week nights shifts now and we have cars calling end of their shift because they have sat on the ranks for 2,3 & 4hrs and not had a fare hence with more plates DISASTER IS IMMINENT for the following reasons. Not many people would want to work for the above mentioned particularly when considering the abuse & personal dangers that occur to taxi drivers and what business person would want to lease plates when there is on most occasion an over supply of taxis out there. I am 61 years of age and have invested at premium rates to buy my plates as my superannuation now I am unable to sell or lease my plates because of the uncertainty of the affect this will have on the industry in our district this applies to most owners & operators.