

**Submission  
No 209**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING PROCESS IN NEWCASTLE  
AND THE BROADER HUNTER REGION**

**Name:** Mr Robert Alder

**Date received:** 24/10/2014

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Honourable Fred Nile

Robert Alder

Newcastle Rail Line

Dear Sir,

1. The cost of removal of the rail line from Wickham to Newcastle is estimated to be \$100 million.  
Could this money be better utilised elsewhere?

2. The cost presently of a return ticket from Maitland to Newcastle is \$10.40 (peak hour).  
Under the proposed bus/light rail transport idea the cost of return ticket to Wickham is \$10.40, the cost of bus from Hamilton to Newcastle is \$3.60, the cost of bus from Newcastle to Wickham is \$3.60 giving a total cost of  $\$10.40 + \$3.60 + \$3.60 = \$17.60$ ,  
this is a 70% increase in the cost of daily transport. (Bus transport is listed on an hourly basis)  
Is this progress?

Yours faithfully

Robert Alder