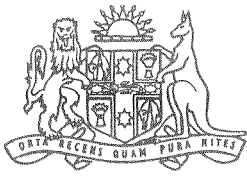


**INQUIRY INTO THE CLOSURE OF CASINO TO
MURWILLUMBAH RAIL SERVICES**

Organisation: Parliament of NSW
Name: Mr Andrew Stoner
Position: Member for OXLEY
Telephone: 02 6562 6190
Date Received: 28/05/2004

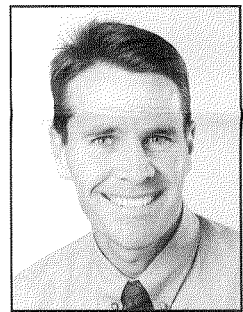
Subject:

Summary



ANDREW STONER MP

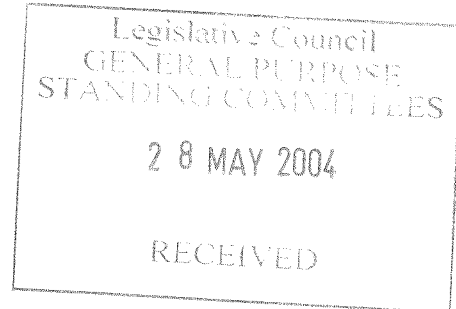
Member for Oxley



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

25 May 2004

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No 4
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Attn: The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC, Chair and Members of the Committee of Inquiry into the Closure of Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Services.

On behalf of Mid North Coast rail users I ask that the Inquiry notes the economic and social impact that the closure of the Casino to Murwillumbah rail service has had on the people of the Mid North Coast.

Alterations to the timetable have resulted in unsuitable southbound departure times for passengers on the Mid North Coast, many of whom caught the southbound service ex Murwillumbah to attend specialist medical appointments in Newcastle and/or Sydney. It was also possible to come home from Newcastle on the Grafton service in the same day.

It is no longer possible to arrange morning appointments (unless passengers are prepared to arrive at Broadmeadow at 4.35 am, which they are not!).

My constituents believe that the Minister is ignoring the needs of the community! The decision has also put more heavy vehicles on North Coast roads, and discriminated against the disabled and elderly. It is also considered that transport is the right of all NSW citizens and that it should be a public service, not a profit-driven exercise.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on behalf of my constituency.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Stoner MP
MEMBER FOR OXLEY

