

**Submission
No 78**

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

Name: Ms Pam Mitchelhill

Date received: 18/10/2014

I am very concerned that there is a proposal to cut the Hunter Line at Wickham and to terminate the Newcastle Line from Central at Broadmeadow.

At present we are able to access Sydney by rail interconnecting at Hamilton station. This is a vital link and the only way of conducting any business in Sydney without staying overnight. The four hours has already been reduced from four and half. No thought also seems to have been given to people from the Upper Hunter travelling on holiday from Sydney. It would be extremely difficult to co-ordinate the trains if a bus connection were involved, not to mention the problem of luggage.

All the previous talk has been on the request for more trains and a faster link to Sydney and I am wondering why people of the Upper Hunter are being ignored and downgraded. I have not seen or heard any proposal regarding our access to Sydney and wonder if any thought has been given to this matter.

Pam Mitchelhill