

**Submission
No 47**

INQUIRY INTO SYDENHAM-BANKSTOWN LINE CONVERSION

Name: Mr Ron Chinchin

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I have been a resident in Berala for over 20 years.

In that time I have watched the rail system in this area eroded step by step, rather than as should be happening, increasing services especially with Global Warming issues demanding that we cut CO2 levels. Failing to offer an efficient and easy to travel rail system to these suburbs means those who have cars such as myself, will choose that means of travel rather than face extensive waiting periods at connections such as Lidcombe, which has become a nightmare of crowded platforms, not to mention having to change platforms up and down stairs just to get to a few stations that can be reached by car or bus in minutes.

I have watched the Bankstown to Blacktown line close, the direct line from Chester Hill to Lidcombe close, the direct line to the city via Lidcombe close and now there are thoughts of doing the same on the Bankstown line. To get to Strathfield from Chester Hill now requires two switches of trains, for a distance that is less than twenty minutes by car. By train it is now up to and at times well over an hour. That's madness.

Having been a public servant for the NSW Government myself, I watch in horror at the reducing train system even state wide. Meanwhile cars, buses, trucks all throwing out gases we are trying to control, are being allowed by governments that seem to have no appreciation for its citizen or the environment. I will personally ignore train travel because I can. But I know of a huge number of people, many pensioners, many with limited mobility, facing an increasing problems of getting from place to place,

This is not servicing the public and certainly in the long run is not cost effective or beneficial to the environment. Little wonder Melbourne is leaping ahead of us in leap and bounds.