



The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP
Minister for Transport

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Mr Ken Gainger
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BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL	
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cc: H. Walker

Dear Mr Gainger,

Thank you for your letter of 29 October 2014 to the Premier, regarding the Casino to Murwillumbah line, which was referred to me.

As you are aware, on 23 April 2013 the NSW Government released a detailed study, focusing on the transport needs of the Northern Rivers community.

The study found that the Casino to Murwillumbah rail line would not meet current or future transport needs and there was no commercial demand for it to be reinstated to carry freight. I am advised the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor is not wide enough to support multi-modal transport.

Further, the rail infrastructure has deteriorated significantly and more than \$900 million would need to be invested to bring the system up to the current safety and operating standards.

The study found that a quality bus network would provide more people with more frequent, cost effective public transport to key destinations than a reinstated rail line. The findings of the study have assisted in the development of the *Northern Rivers Regional Transport Plan*, which was released in December 2013.

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Premier.

Yours faithfully,

Gladys Berejiklian MP
Minister for Transport

19 DEC 2014