



We're there for you

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Our Ref: CVRailSub/Letters/Joan1/CV:ajw

21 December 2001

Dr Ken Michael
Acting Rail Access Regulator
PO Box 7459 Cloister Square
PERTH WA 6850

Dear Dr Michael

**Re: SUBMISSION FOR PROPOSAL WHICH MANY AFFECT CAPACITY ON
THE KALGOORLIE-ESPERANCE RAILWAY LINE**

We note with concern that a current application for track access to the Esperance railway line may preclude other operators from gaining access in the future.

Our subsidiary company, West Australian Newspapers Travel (West Travel), in association with Kevin Pearce Promotions, has been operating tourist trains, on a regular basis, on the Esperance line since 1984. The tours have carried in excess of 5,000 passengers and have been the most successful tours that we have conducted in Western Australia.

There is clearly a demand for rail based long distance tours to the remote parts of the state. As such it would be a major setback to tourism if these popular tours were in any way restricted or prevented from operating.

For the past 16 years these tours have operated three times per year and we see this as being a relevant number for the foreseeable future. To date our tours have been operated under WAGR accreditation. We are currently finalising a "hook and pull" arrangement with another private operator for our 2002 tours.

We trust that favourable consideration will be given in any future track access agreements to enable our proposed three tours per year to continue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Doust". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a trailing flourish.

DIANNE DOUST
GENERAL MANAGER TRAVEL