

SUBMISSION

Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments – INQUIRY
Productivity Commission
Australian Government

11/10/2019

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my concerns about the plan to abolish the remote area tax concessions and zone allowances for Northern Australia and in particular Pilbara residents.

As a resident of Port Hedland for 40 years, we as a family have seen many changes to the region, but over this time we have experienced an increased cost of living from higher electricity and water costs, expensive consumables to exorbitant house insurance policies and continue to have a limited choice of basic services provided because we are remotely located in Australia.

These tax concessions and allowances is a small benefit to families and employees to stay in the region and continue to help grow Australia's economy.

The draft report mentioned a lot about changes in Queensland populated areas, not about Western Australia and remote regional towns that are 2000kms away from a city. To justify abolishing the remote area tax concessions and zone allowances the government would have to offer equal services to city based residents with off peak rates, lower utility costs, comparative range of basic services and a self- sustaining community of non FIFO residents.

It is also disappointing that this inquiry and community submission offer was not advertised properly in the region with most finding out on Facebook. Where was the community engagement and discussion about the removal of the allowance.

Please keep me informed of any outcomes.

Yours Sincerely

Tricia Hebbard
Port Hedland WA