



29/04/2019

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Burketown

Australia's Barramundi Capital

To the Australian Government Productivity Commission

Submission for the remote area tax concessions and payments.

Sorry if this is a bit rushed as I was only informed about it this morning and submissions close today.

I believe there should be a review of the tax concessions for rural and remote areas. I do not believe that places such as Darwin, Cairns etc should have concessions to the degree that remote areas do. All these regional cities have just as good services as the capital cities and cheap airfares along the east coast helps them to travel at much lower costs than remote areas.

Where there is no competition for flights the cost is triple what they are between destinations from Cairns to Melbourne.

Where there are limited freight services the trucking companies can name their price. We recent lost a freight service from Burketown that was doing a run weekly from Townsville to Burketown. Now we have to get two separate freight companies to get freight. One runs Townsville to Mount Isa the second then runs from Mount Isa to Burketown. A pallet of Ice was costing us approximately \$280 dollars freight from Townsville to Burketown. Now the same pallet of ice is costing \$490 freight. This is not sustainable. We want to be able to provide a service to our local community i.e. Ice, Bait, Groceries, Drinks etc but the costs are going through the roof.

Power is another issue. We applied to have solar panels installed to help reduce the cost of power and was unable to proceed with this because the town is on Generator supplied power and Ergon would not allow us to install the solar panels.

The overall cost of living is much higher then in regional towns and cities so I believe we should have some form of compensation for that. We may choose to live in a remote area but we also want to continue to be able to provide services to our local communities.

Yours sincerely

Jasmin Davis

Owner/Manager
Burketown Caravan Park