

Ms Kat Lane
Vice-Chair
Australian Privacy Foundation

Attention: Kat Lane, Vice-Chair
By email: kate.lane@privacy.org.au, secretary@privacy.org.au

25 SEP 2015

Dear Ms Lane,

Letter on Gold Opal Cards for seniors and pensioners

I write to you in relation to your letter of 24 August 2015 to Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP, in which the Australian Privacy Foundation expressed its concerns that the compulsory registration of Gold Opal cards would deny concessional customers the right to anonymous travel.

Thank you for providing me with a copy of the letter. As you are aware, I released a media statement on 5 August 2015, expressing my disappointment about the discontinuation of paper public transport tickets for pensioner excursion, and the consequence that senior citizens either now have to register their personal details to get an Opal card or pay full fare.

There is a need for NSW public transport commuters, irrespective of the fare they pay, to be able to travel anonymously under the Opal Electronic Ticketing System. The provision of such a choice ensures that the NSW transport system is built around the needs and expectations of its users.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries on (02) 8019 1611 (direct line, Monday, Wednesday and Friday) or 0477 302 261 outside these days. Alternatively, your officers may contact David Marcus, Manager Performance Reporting and Projects, on (02) 8071 7041, or by email at david.marcus@ipc.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Dr Elizabeth Coombs
NSW Privacy Commissioner