



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

NATIONAL RAIL SAFETY WEEK - DON'T PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE

The NSW Government has invested \$3.6 billion in 626 new rail carriages for commuters.

Monday 27 July 2009

Transport Minister David Campbell today reminded passengers, pedestrians and road users to stay safe around railway lines to mark National Rail Safety Awareness Week.

Mr Campbell said the national campaign aimed to keep people safe around railways, especially railway level crossings and rail corridors.

“Most accidents on platforms are easy to avoid if you take some time to stay safe around the railways,” Mr Campbell said.

“Basic safety practices like standing behind the yellow line, minding the gap when boarding, taking care entering or exiting trains and arriving with plenty of time, are important for all passengers to remember.”

Mr Campbell said people trespassing on railway property were also putting themselves at serious risk.

“Most people understand that a 500 tonne train cannot swerve to miss a trespasser so the message is clear – don’t do it,” Mr Campbell said.

“The focus of National Rail Safety Awareness Week this year is taking care at level crossings.

“There are more than 23,500 level crossings in Australia and 1,400 on public roads in NSW.

“On average, 100 level crossing collisions occur nationally causing 37 road fatalities every year.

“The key message for pedestrians at level crossings is stay on the path, stay alert and stay safe.

“Motorists need to obey level crossing signs and warnings and not try to beat the train or closing barriers,” Mr Campbell said.

For more information about National Rail Safety Week visit CityRail’s train safety website www.trainsmart.com.au

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