

From: Elias
To: [pointtopoint](#)
Subject: Point to Point Transport Regulation
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Hello Transport NSW team:

My name is Elias Haddad owner of Taxi plates [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] I do strongly object to the point to point sudden ambush introduction of private cars ride sharing without any notice nor sufficient compensation to the existing taxis plates owners (hard working Australian citizens) who borrowed money with high interests from the banks, mortgaging their houses, the taxi plates and every asset they own, to buy taxi plates (the banks at the time were lending the money because buying taxi plates were a good and sound investment). Taxi owners helped the Australian public and did everything by the books to meet the Ministry of Transport rules and regulations for years as well as meet the network requirement year after year with different changes to the requirements on a regular basis from car age / car colour/ drivers shield/ than they changed their mind to a camera/ from voice transmitting to MT data transmitting / inspections from once a year to 6 times a year and the excessive rise of costs of owning, keeping and maintaining taxis in Sydney (Rego's, insurances, C.T.P. radio fees, replacement car costs, rise of maintenance costs, workers compensation the list goes on and on) we were always happy to meet any changes and technology.

Australia was craving for a sophisticated taxis and transport system such as the technology of Uber and others that were introduced, very user friendly up to speed mobile phone apps that was not only convenient but simple and fast, payment methods.

Unfortunately the Taxis network appeared to concentrate on making money at the time and look good for the Shareholders rather than investing in technology but all that changed at present, Taxis Combined now called 13CABS and all other taxi networks have a huge IT and a development team that are capable of introducing an even far better technology than our competitors. It seems to me like the Government responsible of the taxi industry ignored that fact, and that's why Uber's technology and friendly user apps and direct contact between drivers and passengers with a press of a button and the method of payment, took off like a dream in Australia and I'm sorry to say this could have been done by the taxi network and a push from the Ministry of Transport and who pays the price now the TAXI PLATE OWNERS.

Have the taxis networks introduced this technology like Uber we would've adapted no problems like we done with UBER and the other new players instead the networks and the ministry of transport had different priority and concentrated on different approach to control the improvement and technology of the taxi industry and it seems like everybody was able to put their prices up to suit them unlike us taxi owners / Drivers we are controlled by the meter that's sealed in the taxi and subject for negotiation once a year if any etc. etc. etc. the list goes on and on and on.

And let's not forget when the Hire Car industry and the cars that were running around as Station Wagons at the Airports got deregulated the licence owners got a compensation of one taxi plate for each car in return.

I've chosen to be self-employed drive operate run a small taxi fleet look after Sydney taxis

passengers that kept on dishing it on me the good and the bad from good working class to drunks that vomited in my taxi to the runners and of course not counting the one that threatened me with very serious threads, I stayed in control I soldiered on I employed drivers and generating work and service to the busy and populated Sydney, number one in my opinion city in the world, rather than concentrating on staying in my permanent secure job in the Airline Industry and it's healthy super.

The introduction of ride sharing of Uber X, Go catch, in go go, hop on, and God knows how many others have caused a drastic drop in the purchase price of taxi plates from \$440,00.00 3 years ago to below \$180,000.00 (I recently got a ridiculous offer of \$110,000.00) not to mention how hard it is to find drivers and loss of income on a daily basis, all this has caused chaos to my retirement plan as my wife and I are going to be 65 years old this year. I worked hard all my life missing out on spending time with my family coming back late hours and leaving early mornings, working on weekdays and weekends and public holidays X-mass January school holidays (in a matter of fact still I'm) so that I can make a future for us and depended on the taxi plates to compensate us instead of super and all that has been taken away from us, I feel like all these years of hard work has amounted to nothing as we don't have a plan B for our retirement (plan B like the government advertise when you drink plan B is to catch a cab home he will take you safely home that's us taxis).

I urge you to support us taxi plate owners, and I am speaking for all the taxi plate owners that I know and do 100% agree with me, that the Government should pay us a reasonable price for the plates, most of us taxi plate owners are too old now to change career and also we have the right, as senior citizens, after working hard all these years, to retire in peace and enjoy our retirement for the rest of our remaining life without having to resort to drastic measures like having to sell our family homes and be forced to go on the pension. If the Government is sincere towards the Australian citizens they can compensate us rather than implementing these third world countries rules and force us to suffer this drastic loss of price for our taxi plates.

Someone should be liable for the compensation whether it's the Government or the ride sharing Companies or the new players like UBER and the others, taxi networks or a combination of all of them we need your help and support desperately and I can't think of anyone but our elected Government to help us.

Regards

Elias Haddad



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