



# Weealla

MERINOS & POLL MERINO STUD

DK & KA McBurnie & Sons  
1504 Milpulling Road  
Balladoran NSW 2831  
David 68881101 0437881108  
Stuart 68879266  
Email [weealla4@bigpond.com](mailto:weealla4@bigpond.com)  
Web [www.weealla.com](http://www.weealla.com)

The General Manager,  
Gilgandra Shire Council  
Warren Road  
Gilgandra NSW 2827

Dear Mr Neeves,

On Wednesday David, myself and Gordon & Noeline Lummis had a meeting with Mayor Batten and Randal Medd, about our concerns of Inland Rail. We would like the following letter distributed to all Councillor's before the next Shire Meeting, we would also like to come and address the Councillor's at that meeting.

We as concerned ratepayers of Gilgandra Shire, believe all Councillor's should be aware that ARTC have consulted with 90% of your ratepayers, between Burroway and Curban and the general feedback is that they do not want the Inland Rail to pass near their properties. They want it to join the existing Coonamble line, this was stated in the Inland Rail Options Report. We feel the Councillor's of Gilgandra Shire have not been kept informed by the Mayor of his number of meetings, which he has attended with ARTC, there are no council minutes where ARTC has been discussed at Council Meetings.

We feel the Gilgandra Shire have not done enough to help your ratepayers with their concerns in using the existing rail network. There was a meeting at Armatree, instigated by Gil Shire Deputy Mayor, Mayor, and Randal Medd, with Pacific National in attendance, (how were we suppose to know about this meeting for a start) was only on Facebook if you are not friends with the Council how did you know about it. It seems Gil Shire are hoping ARTC put an intermodal at Curban, we cannot see how this is going to help the town being at Curban.

The Councillor's should beware of the distention Inland Rail is causing about the unknown to farmers in particular, (whether to plough up a paddock put a fence up, can I sell the place if need be) there some numerous questions yet to be answered. You get conflicting answers to questions from each different ARTC rep coming around. NSW Farmers, our national body working for farmers, have advised all farmers not to consult with ARTC until they get all the relevant paperwork that ARTC don't seem to want to give them, about how they came up with the proposed study area the route of the rail and the access agreements. We have employed a Solicitor & a Barrister, they have advised the same, there is not enough information in their agreements to cover farmers.

We believe the Council have purchased 100ha near the Graincorp site, hoping a concrete business comes to the town, it would be more profitable for that business to utilize the existing rail, right near it, instead of having to go to Curban. As for getting trucks off the road. How to you think the grain is to get to the rail, by truck of course, it has been stated that there will be a cost saving of \$10 at tonne, but to get your produce to and from a intermodal it will cost \$15-\$20 a ton so in essence it 's not going to save freight costs, and by being at Curban Gilgandra town is missing out, because the trucks will go straight thru town, not stopping.

Another concern to the ratepayers of Gilgandra would be the water that building the Inland Rail will use, they have the potential to use 2mg of water per day, that is the capacity of the water tank in Gilgandra at the moment. Randal Medd did state at the meeting we had with him and the Mayor "I wonder how that will effect the aquafer", then the next morning on ABC Radio, The General Manager is stating that the Gil Shire will be putting deep bores down, we are concerned this will interfere with the water table.

We urge Councillor's to think seriously in getting ARTC to use the existing Rail line as a intermodel nearer to Gilgandra, the long- term effect on the town in years to come would be bringing more and more businesses, jobs and families to the town.

Yours

*David & Karen McBurnie*