

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Date:[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Wednesday, 20 May 2015 3:50:18 PM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Please consider this submission into the "Fly in, fly out and other long distance commuting work practices in regional Queensland" inquiry.

My name is Stewart, and I was born and bred in a small town. I grew up and loved the community spirit and pride that we once had. The town was abuzz, sports plentiful, schools full, wonderful community fundraisers were a part of our daily lives, all working together to make our community one. Everyone new everyone and we loved it that way. But I watched our small town be eaten away like cancer, as big business came to town without a heart, without a soul and definitely without compassion for small town peoples needs. They came and ripped the heart and soul clean out of our town, I watched on, praying for our government to step in and STOP this onslaught, of our town and many towns around us, but they never came, they didn't care, why would they, they have a nice home, lots of money in a city that has no understanding of community. I watched until I could watch no more, when I left all that remain are a few brave men and women who refuse to give in, when I return I see a skeleton of the home I once new. I then became one of many made redundant and due to the high amount of DIDO/FIFO working in my town I am now forced to work many miles away in someone else's small town. It really doesn't make sense that they make a father live so far away from his family. I am punished daily for not wanting to live in the city. I sadly travel as a DIDO and work with Many FIFO. I hear the stories of marriage breakdown daily, and hope when I get home my marriage is strong enough to see it through. I see firsthand work mates who think suicide is the only answer, a once big man broken. Then the deaths of our mates killed on the trip home, as fatigue takes its toll, and I pray along with my family that I won't become a statistic of road kill, on today's news, and forgotten tomorrow. So you want to know why I hate what DIDO/FIFO has done to my life, our community, our spirit and the good old Aussie way. Well out life as we new it has been Ripped away for greed, and really will our home land benefit, or will the pockets of our politicians, and lands of our neighbouring countries benefit. I don't know, but I do know that my family doesn't benefit from having no Dad around. Kind regards Stewart

I think I've said my peace, but to recap
Living a long way away from you family is NOT a life
NOT fair
NOT Australian
NOT for me
NOT knowing if I will come home in one piece this time, is hard on me and harder on my wife.
NOT good for communities in crisis, communities that have been hung our to dry, and left to die.
JUST NOT GOOD BUSSINESS

This is not rocket science Sir
You've heard our cries because this is a battle that started long before now, this

is battle that started when we first noticed the death of our town and many more like us. But sadly our cries have fallen on deaf ears. Is it to late, I hope not, but action is required NOW!

Honestly, the solution is simple, if you live there, you have a right to work there, If you have the qualifications to fill the position, why employ someone from the Gold Coast/Brisbane employ locally. We want to live in our town; we love the life, we are the one who makes up the numbers on the senses, whose children attend the schools, we support our local shops, NOT the FIFO/DIFO. Again we watch as shops, hotels motels and communities are being starved to death, that barely hang in there, and many have sadly just shut their doors and walked away. so why not let us get on with living, because FIFO/DIDO is not living. We are broken, but YOU can fix us, if you dare to take a stand, for your country kin.

Regards

Stewart Martin Malcolm

