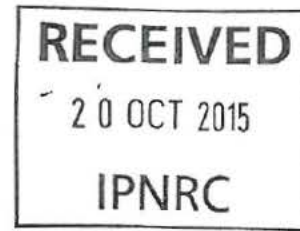


Uber submission 14th October 2015

Post: Research Director
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000



I0629
11.1.10
#156

From V C Tucker. [REDACTED]

Queensland Requirement

We **must** maintain an **organised transport system** in this country.

I neither own nor drive taxis, but I have observed chaos and also experienced devastating consequences of unregulated taxis in several overseas countries. Queensland Government administer a regulated Taxi Licencing scheme, but existing penalties are not sufficient to deter illegal operations of Uber International.

Comment

- **Uber technology is not new** many Australians could implement similar systems ages ago; but they recognised that it is illegal for bus and taxi transport. In Queensland we have an organised control system in accordance with Government regulation. Furthermore we were never prepared to influence politicians for changes to the system.
- **Australian Governments encourage us to invest**, preferably in Australia. Some Australians choose to invest in Transport. Those who choose Taxis, borrow and invest considerable funds not only because it is regulated in accordance with Government requirements but it also provides for employment of other Australians. Moreover, both Taxi Owners and Drivers contribute to revenue through both Personal Tax and GST.

- Australian Treasurer Hon Joe Hockey announced he would assist with Australia's unemployment with 20,000 new jobs with Uber International. Was this in the interest of Australian investors? Where are the extra jobs? It appears he is just fragmenting the jobs of others and creating chaos to our organised system.
- It appears that Hon Joe Hockey was duped by the senior vice-president of Uber International who visited Australia with intention to influence Government to change so that a portion of profit could be shared internationally. It demonstrates his thought is lacking in the interest of Australians.
- Moreover, when Hon Joe Hockey was queried on the Taxi system he then indicated that it was a State matter. Correct.
- My observation of Uber in Queensland: Drivers are part time they have other jobs; they provide an illegal service that is already legally available from existing taxi companies. Taxis comply with regulation with high costs required by Government not only for vehicle standards, regular inspections and Taxi replacements but also for registration, special extra insurance focussing on safety of passengers together with central communication technology to identify passengers and location of other taxis in the region.
- Uber do not invest in Licences even though Licences are commercially available. They park illegally. They are a hazard to both pedestrians and traffic on busy evenings e.g. one Saturday evening a Uber car parked at street lights waiting for a client in Eagle Street thereby delaying, but actually preventing many pedestrians crossing with their green light; more recently a Uber stopped in the right hand land lane in, one way Wickham Street, Fortitude Valley thereby forcing delay with all following traffic to change lanes in very busy traffic.
- Queensland's organised Taxi system provides a special safe subsidised service to the elderly, disabled, school children, who may not otherwise be able to travel. They also provide for parcel and

medical deliveries. These are constantly monitored in the interest of public safety and aid police investigation.

- The Queensland Taxi system provides a 24 hour service including remote areas. Phone bookings, particularly in Regional Queensland, command more of the taxi market than with taxis hired from rank or hailed in the street.
- Uber focus on the premium segment of the phone booking market. They steal some choice jobs from the existing Taxi system thereby reducing the efficiency and returns to both taxi Owners and Drivers and they create further chaos. Furthermore the drivers can readily tout for additional fares, sometimes excessive, after dropping off Uber clients at their destination. Moreover, by supporting an uncontrolled, illegal transport operation to flourish it facilitates other illegal organisations to use this service and proliferate particularly at airports and cruise terminals.
- It is reported that some politicians use Uber for their own convenience. However, as politicians it is also their task, as our representatives, to adjust and provide control measures for legislation to benefit all Australians and, in particular, those Australians who are prepared to borrow and invest in Australian business.
- Although Uber could buy commercial licenses they choose illegal entry and to sustain illegal operation despite previous Premier, Campbell Newman, issuing a cease-and-desist notice to Uber, effectively banning its ride sharing service. More recently Transport Minister and Deputy Premier, Jackie Trad again warned Uber drivers they will continue to be fined. Despite warnings, Uber continues to advertise for drivers even though under the Criminal Code, it is illegal to induce someone to partake in an illegal activity.
- Uber benefits from their widespread publicity of continually defying existing law. Credit is attributed to Transport Minister and Deputy Premier, Jackie Trad for recognising that Uber is illegal and implementing some control measures. Unfortunately these seem ineffective. **Stronger action is warranted forthwith.** Otherwise weaknesses in control of illegal car transport continues to spread

throughout several sectors of our community with adverse consequences. It becomes a joke with some crafty (former bus passengers) at shopping centres requesting transport at Uber rates from other shoppers with cars.

- Stronger action is required forthwith. Yet in contrast, Queensland Government not only delayed initial action but they also extended further action until 16th August 2016. Uber will gain further publicity flouting the law thereby enhancing some perceptions of weakness in control of transport and even extending to other important laws. Opportunity missed, impacts adversely on regulated Taxi and other transport enterprises. Some politicians appear influenced towards unnecessary delay. One Questions, **Why their Will is lacking?**
- Hon Joe Hockey encouraged Australians to borrow and invest. Yet his statement of job creation through Uber International widespread throughout the media is not sound. His reported statement of 20,000 new jobs through Uber International lacks creditability. It has not happened. Uber has already influenced/conned some Governments and regulators. It appears that some of our Politicians are willing to excuse their lack of leadership by throwing in the towel, by conceding that they cannot stop Uber. They need to rethink their position.
- Implementation of effective penalties for sound control is warranted forthwith.

Yours faithfully,



V C Tucker

Vivian Charles Tucker



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: Uber Submission
Date: Monday, 19 October 2015 5:31:13 AM
Attachments: [Uber Viv's Submission 14th October 2015 Email.docx](#)

Dear Representative,

Please find attachment comprising my submission in respect to Uber International sustained defiance to warnings against Queensland's Transport Act and Regulations for Taxis and private Limousines.

Yours faithfully,

V C Tucker

Vivian Charles Tucker