

Dear Sir/Madam,

With regard to the Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services

Inquiry into infrastructure and the development of Australia's regional areas I wish to highlight the fact that a national cycle network would directly address at a number of the points mentioned in the terms of reference.

1. It would provide considerable regional employment during the building phases and ongoing employment through the need for maintenance.
2. It would facilitate local transport and recreation in the regional areas.
3. It would bring money into the community through riders stopping in regional areas.
4. It would provide a significant opportunity for both local and international tourism, thereby benefitting the national economy. The attractiveness of Australian rural areas for overseas riders is readily apparent when one looks at the increased demand from overseas to participate in the RTA big ride.

Warm Regards,  
Dr. Paul Atkins

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