



AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LTD

OUR REF: 15/175/44-11/32184

18 May 2011

Michael Deegan  
Infrastructure Coordinator  
Infrastructure Australia  
Level 21, 126 Phillip Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Mr. Deegan

**Re: National Land Freight Strategy Discussion Paper**

Please find attached a Submission in response to the *Discussion Paper on the National Land Freight Strategy* circulated by Infrastructure Australia in February 2011.

This document was jointly prepared by ARTC, Asciano and QR National and is submitted on behalf of all three companies.

The companies support the concept of a National Land Freight Strategy (NLFS). There are a number of major infrastructure planning and implementation issues facing the rail industry which could best be addressed within a NLFS.

They believe however that to be successful a NLFS must be based on solid, multi-jurisdictional processes and governance. Establishing these should be a major priority for Infrastructure Australia. All three companies are ready to effectively contribute to this task and to development of a long term rail infrastructure plan once the NLFS framework is in place.

In parallel with development of a NLFS, the companies consider it important that work is accelerated on other transport reform initiatives, particularly:

- Accelerated progress on road freight pricing focusing, as proposed in the Henry Report, on the major corridors where there is road: rail competition
- Development of national management structures for nationally significant road and rail infrastructure
- Action on transport related land use planning decisions associated particularly with development of intermodal terminals, and protection of key transport corridors.

The companies would be pleased to respond on any points in this submission which may require clarification, and to assist Infrastructure Australia in developing a robust framework for a successful NLFS.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Fullerton', is written over a horizontal line.

John Fullerton  
Chief Executive Officer