



FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Hon Dean Nalder MLA
Minister for Transport
Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
West Perth WA 6005

Dear Minister

Council Update

At its latest meeting, the Freight and Logistics Council discussed a variety of freight issues that should be of interest to you.

a) Perth Transport Plan @ 3.5 Million

Council members, and other industry representatives, are studying the detail of the five freight priorities included in the Plan with a view to providing the Government with a response from those who will actually use the proposed infrastructure and systems for freight. Industry's initial view of the Plan is most positive and we expect the subsequent commentary to be helpful to Government.

b) Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) into Intelligent Transport

A national CRC is presently being developed into Intelligent Transport and it will have a key freight component. The university transport research group PATREC is testing the appetite of the freight industry locally to become involved in this CRC. Areas that may lend themselves to smarter practices include the cold chain for food exports, regional logistics (especially grain) and interfaces in the container supply chain. Significant research funding is available under this initiative. The Council is assisting PATREC make appropriate contacts.

c) Food Export Supply Chains

The agri-business unit that has been established in the Department of State Development is particularly focussed on increasing WA food exports into Asia. Issues of consistency of supply and scale of production have already been identified as barriers historically. Logistics support is also seen as an area to be worked on. The Council is assisting the Department in this respect. Current discussions on air freight potential illustrate this cooperation.

d) Ports WA

The Council was pleased to hear that Ports WA is being reinvigorated after a period of low activity. Many issues are common to the two bodies and a joint approach to current discussions such as the protection of freight corridors will benefit each.


e) Freight Rail Noise

The Department of Transport has asked the Council to oversee a programme to reduce freight rail noise impacts through operational measures that address rail at source. While the Council believes

that changes should be made to land use planning policy impacting communities adjacent to freight rail corridors, it does recognise that such policy measures are of limited value in established suburbs. Reduction in wheel squeal, locomotive engine pass-by noise and the use of train horns, among other initiatives, would go some way to addressing increasing calls from affected communities for operational restrictions such as curfews. A joint industry-Government programme has now commenced, aimed at doing this.

Minister, I now have a booking in your diary and look forward to discussing these issues with you. In addition, I intend bringing to you a proposal to institute various changes to the Council which I believe will make it even more helpful to you as a source on independent industry advice on key strategic policy issues.

Yours sincerely



Nicole Lockwood
Chair
05/08/2016