



FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Secretary
Western Australian Planning Commission
469 Wellington Street
Perth WA 6000

Dear Sir

**Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1191/41
Rationalisation of Fremantle Ports Operations**

The Freight and Logistics Council of Western Australia was established last year by the Minister for Transport, Hon Simon O'Brien, to advise him on strategic policy matters pertinent to his portfolio responsibilities. The Council comprises senior decision makers from both industry and Government whose activities impact on freight and logistics services in this State.

Since its establishment, the Council has put a heavy focus on port operations along the Western Australian coast. This is unsurprising given that international trade is the cornerstone of the State's burgeoning economy.

Fremantle Port is the main general cargo port on the coast and, in fact, is the only one that handles international shipping containers. This activity is fundamental to both the State's economic well-being and community amenity through its impact on export competitiveness and consumer pricing respectively.

The sustainability of Fremantle Port is contingent on conducting port operations in a manner that recognises the needs of the surrounding community in a situation of steadily increasing trade levels. This objective is enshrined in Fremantle Ports' comprehensive planning policies.

This amendment aims to bring all operational areas in the Fremantle Inner Harbour within a common reservation. Once achieved, that will allow operations to expand and be upgraded, such that growing port demands can be accommodated in a manner efficient to port users without undesirable impact on the surrounding community.

In recognising the importance of this outcome, the Council strongly supports the amendment and urges the Commission to implement it expeditiously. To do otherwise would be to impact negatively on this vital piece of State economic infrastructure.

For your consideration please.

Yours sincerely

Bob Pearce
Deputy Chairman

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