



FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Reforming Australia's Shipping
Department of Infrastructure and Transport
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Sirs

The Freight and Logistics Council of Western Australia appreciates the opportunity to comment on the paper "Reforming Australia's Shipping" released by Minister Albanese in December last year. The comment is attached to this letter.

The Council supports the direction of the proposed reforms. They are consistent with related calls from this group and its predecessors over a number of years. Given Western Australia's dependence on good shipping links, the Council is pleased to see some firm policy proposals now being put on the table.

The Council would make the observation, however, that this is clearly just the start of a lengthy process of policy development and implementation. The Discussion Paper is necessarily broad and conceptual in its approach. A great deal of related discussion has to occur to progress its thinking to reality.


Government can establish a better policy environment for Australian shipping, but for it to work in practice, industry will have to see commercial merit in the proposals. That will require ongoing and detailed liaison with industry to ensure the policy is the right one and will be used when implemented.

This Council, and its fellow Councils in other States, is well placed to give policy makers the benefit of practical experience and knowledge in this complex area. A mechanism that formalises that input through the entire policy development process is highly desirable to ensure best outcome.

Please direct associated queries to Mark Brownell, the Council Executive Officer, on 08 9216 8817 or mark.brownell@transport.wa.gov.au.

The Council looks forward to participating fully in the development of this nationally important Federal policy.

Yours sincerely


Dr Fred Affleck
Chairman
28/11/2011