

MEDIA RELEASE

ALC Congratulates Albanese on Shadow Ministerial Appointment

The <u>Australian Logistics Council</u> (ALC) welcomes the re-appointment of Anthony Albanese as Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

"Anthony Albanese's re-appointment to Labor's front bench will help to ensure infrastructure and Australia's supply chains have a strong voice around the Shadow Cabinet table," Michael Kilgariff, ALC Managing Director said.

"Mr Albanese has proven himself to be a committed advocate for this portfolio and ALC looks forward to working with him and his shadow ministerial colleagues over the course of this next parliament.

"ALC also congratulates Stephen Jones on his appointment as Shadow Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government, and we look forward to liaising with him on measures to improve freight access in local government areas," he said.

Mr Kilgariff said Mr Albanese has a solid record in this portfolio – he committed funding for inland rail; established Infrastructure Australia; established a national transport regulatory regime for heavy vehicles, rail safety and maritime safety; and he was responsible for developing the first National Land Freight Strategy.

"The National Land Freight Strategy, which mapped Australia's key freight routes, was an important document to help guide the growth of the logistics sector," he said.

"ALC would like to see this important piece of work taken a step further through the development of a comprehensive National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy.

"The development of a National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, which would incorporate the various, interlinked components of our national and international supply chains, was one of the high-level recommendations of Infrastructure Plan.

"The development of the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy should be viewed as the next step of the economic reform agenda and in the same context as the white papers that have transformed many of Australia's economically critical industries.

"An integral part of this is ensuring we have a truly national regulatory framework with no-cross border inconsistencies – a legislative ambition that was predicted to reap \$30 billion in economic benefits over 20 years.

"We look forward to the Opposition's support for this important piece of work to deal with future freight growth and to maximise the logistics sector's benefits to the Australian economy," he said.

Mr Kilgariff said the development of the Strategy was the primary recommendation contained in ALC's 2016 election priorities document, *Getting the Supply Chain Right*¹

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