



ALC Election Priorities Encourage Delivery on Critical Logistics Projects and Reforms

The Australian Logistics Council (ALC), the peak representative body for the freight logistics industry, today released its 2013 election priorities document *Time to Deliver* which calls for action on a range of projects and reforms to improve supply chain efficiency in Australia.

"*Time to Deliver* challenges both major parties to deliver on a number of major infrastructure projects, long term freight plans and reforms to increase productivity, reduce red tape and improve safety in the freight logistics industry," said Michael Kilgariff, ALC Managing Director.

"Headlining ALC's election priorities for infrastructure are progressing the Inland Rail link and a second Sydney airport at Badgery's Creek, both of which are seen by the freight logistics industry as critical to improving productivity, efficiency and safety.

"An inland rail route linking Brisbane and Melbourne has long been talked about as a key piece of infrastructure Australia needs to meet our rising freight task on the north south corridor.

"A study undertaken a few years ago found an inland rail line would in time be economically viable, and would help to free up capacity through Sydney which is often a freight bottleneck due to passenger services being granted priority," he said.

ALC believes it is time to deliver on an inland rail route by:

- Commissioning a follow-up study now to further examine the inland rail freight line's feasibility
- Preserving and protecting the preferred alignment now so that the land will be available when the inland rail freight line is eventually built

ALC is also calling on both major parties to deliver on a second Sydney airport, by providing the go-ahead for the planning of an airport at Badgery's Creek.

"This issue simply cannot stay in the too-hard basket and ALC is calling on whichever party wins the forthcoming federal election to progress this issue in Australia's national interest," Mr Kilgariff said.

"Numerous studies have found significant growth in airfreight in the Sydney market in the coming years, heightening the need for action now to increase capacity.

"A second airport is needed in Sydney to add price competition to the Sydney air freight market; to meet rising levels of demand and to address congestion issues around Kingsford Smith," he said.

Time to Deliver also calls for the role of Infrastructure Australia to be enhanced.

"Infrastructure Australia should be the 'productivity commission' of infrastructure and should play a greater role in the identification and prioritisation of major infrastructure projects," he said

"This includes being provided greater capacity to facilitate enhanced private sector investment in freight logistics infrastructure."

Other critical freight logistics priorities identified by ALC in *Time to Deliver* include:

- Supporting the use of High Productivity Vehicles
- Improving long term freight planning
- Recycling of infrastructure assets
- Progressing the development of intermodal terminals
- Investing in rail infrastructure servicing major capital city ports

Time to Deliver is available on the [ALC website](http://www.austlogistics.com.au).

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