



## Freight Logistics Industry Highlights its Election Year Priorities in 2013-2014 Budget Submission

A range of proposals to improve productivity, efficiency and safety in the freight logistics industry are at the forefront of the Australian Logistics Council's 2013-2014 Pre-Budget Submission which it provided to Government today.

"Boosting national productivity will be a critical issue this election year and so ALC has set out a range of proposals in its 2013-2014 Pre-Budget Submission which will help address flatlining productivity levels in the transport sector," said Michael Kilgariff, ALC Managing Director.

"In the context of the federal election being called for 14 September, ALC encourages all sides of politics to analyse the proposals it has put forward in its budget submission to support more efficient supply chains.

"Two keys to improving productivity, efficiency and safety in the freight logistics industry are through better infrastructure and more efficient regulation.

"To that end, we are calling on to government to ensure it places a high priority on investing in nationally significant infrastructure to help meet increasing demand on our major transport networks.

"In particular, we are calling on government to maintain the Commonwealth's ratio of funding infrastructure under the Nation Building 2 program as existed under the Nation Building 1 program.

"ALC would be concerned if the ratio of Commonwealth Government funding for Nation Building 2 projects changed and it began seeking 50-50 funding arrangements with the states.

"Given the fiscal imbalance between different levels of government and the budget pressures currently being experienced by the states, ALC believes this would inevitably lead to a reduction in overall public sector spending on infrastructure.

"Now is not the time to reduce vital investment in transport infrastructure projects which are critical building blocks for a stronger national economy.

"ALC also recognises the important role of the Infrastructure Finance Working Group to further encourage private sector investment in nationally significant infrastructure and so we therefore request it is provided the necessary funds to continue this vital piece of work.

"We would also like to see a high priority put on the development of legislation to establish special tax provisions to improve certainty for private sector investment in nationally significant projects."

Other key points in the ALC submission are:

- Requesting Federal Government support for and appropriate funds towards a 'National Partnership' under the Federal Financial Relations Framework
- Detailing ALC's preferred approach in relation to taxation arrangements in the freight logistics industry
- Requesting funds be provided for key legislative changes
- Seeking improvement in regulation quality
- Outlining ALC's preferred approach in relation to the future of the National Transport Commission
- Increasing funding under the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program

These and other issues critical to the future of the freight logistics industry will be discussed at the ALC Forum 2013 which is being held from 12-14 March 2013 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

For more information on the Forum and for a copy of the ALC 2013-2014 Pre-Budget Submission visit [www.austlogistics.com.au](http://www.austlogistics.com.au)

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