

MEDIA RELEASE

ALC Welcomes Key Milestone on Inland Rail

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) welcomes the announcement that phase two of market testing for private sector involvement in Inland Rail will be held in late January and early February 2017.

“Inland rail is critical to improving the efficient movement of freight in Australia, and so I welcome the announcement that the next phase of market testing will be held next year,” said Michael Kilgariff, ALC Managing Director.

“Private sector involvement in the delivery of Inland Rail will be critical to progress this nationally significant infrastructure project,” he said.

Mr Kilgariff said ALC has highlighted inland rail as a priority infrastructure project requiring further government investment in the 2017-2018 Budget.

“ALC’s [2017-2018 budget submission](#) encourages the Government to commit to funding for construction to allow industry to plan for when operations commence,” he said.

“Further government support for the 1700km link between Brisbane and Melbourne is essential to ensure this project comes to fruition, and in so doing, to complete the spine of the national freight rail network.

“Infrastructure Australia’s [Infrastructure Priority List](#) has identified Inland Rail as a Priority Project, noting the long-term benefits to potential users of the project, users of alternative infrastructure, and the broader economy.

“This underscores why investment in economically significant projects, such as inland rail, should be preferred to other more speculative projects such as High Speed Rail, for which the net public benefit to the Australian economy is far less established.

“ALC 2016 election priorities document ‘[Getting the Supply Chain Right](#)’ and video ‘[Now is the time To Get the Supply Chain Right](#)’ highlighted the critical role the Inland Rail project will play in the future supporting more efficient freight movements.

“To maximise its effectiveness, the inland rail route must have end to end connectivity and include efficient linkages to key freight hubs and intermodal terminals, such as InterLinkSQ – a master-planned logistics, warehousing and industrial estate located 13kms west of Toowoomba,” he concluded.

Click here for ALC’s Video [Inland Rail – Australia’s Freight Future](#)

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