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National Transport Commission
Public Submission – (Who Moves What Where Discussion Paper)
Level 15/628 Bourke Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

WHO MOVES WHAT: BETTER INFORMING TRANSPORT PLANNING FOR AUSTRALIANS

The Australian Logistics Council (**ALC**) is pleased to make this brief submission on this Discussion Paper.

By way of background, ALC is the peak national body representing the major and national companies participating in the freight logistics industry, with a focus on national supply chain efficiency and safety.

ALC agrees with the direction of the paper, and its recommendations.

ALC has always supported open data policies so as to allow information to flow seamlessly down Australia's chains and so enhancing productivity outcomes.

As long ago as 2010, ALC said in its publication *Using Information and Communications Technology to Increase Productivity in the Australian Transport and Logistics*:

In order to deliver excellent service T&L businesses need to build excellent relationships with their clients, manage complex execution processes, and manage their own assets and people effectively. Despite being world-leaders in the 1980s and 1990s Australian T&L companies have failed to secure the productivity improvements that can now be gained using existing technologies — information that exists today is not being leveraged as it might to increase the productivity of T&L companies, their customers and the economy in general.

This failure to adapt ignores innovation and new technologies that can deliver significant benefits and customer service improvements, including the latest generation of Logistics Management Systems, Vehicle Tracking and Monitoring, Real-Time Traffic Information, Routing, Freight Matching, and Wireless Communications that can ensure the effective integration of all parts of the supply chain.

In fact, the most efficient supply chains worldwide leverage real-time information and ensure real collaboration between partners, whether this is within a closed-loop, across the industry, or indeed across the entire economy. Impartial industry wide Information and Communications Technology (ICT) solutions will enhance the industry's ability to deliver predictable and reliable flows of goods and people.¹

ALC particularly agrees with Recommendation 3, which proposes the development of a transport satellite account.

¹ <http://austlogistics.com.au/wp-content/pdf/policy/Using-information-and-Communications-Technology-to-Increase-Productivity-in-the-Australian-Transport-and-Logistics-Industry-July-2010.pdf>:4


The need for such an account was identified in ALC's 2014 publication *The Economic Significance of the Australian Logistics Industry*. The development of such an account would make the analysis of the size and efficiency of the Australian logistics market easier, and so produce the better results that flow from the presence of better information.²

Finally, ALC's views more generally on the use of technology to collect and use information is set out in the *Getting Technology Right* section of its 2016 publication *Getting the Supply Chain Right – Building the Economy Through Efficient and Safe Supply Chains*.³

The recommendations made in that publication should also be adopted.

Please contact me on 0418 627 995 or at Michael.kilgariff@austlogistics.com.au should you wish to discuss this matter.

Yours sincerely



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² <http://austlogistics.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Economic-Significance-of-the-Australian-Logistics-Industry-FINAL.pdf> - see especially page 24

³ <http://www.austlogistics.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Getting-the-Supply-Chain-Right.pdf> - see esp. pages 26-27