

MEDIA RELEASE

Effects of Industrial Action Will Hurt Consumers

The [Australian Logistics Council \(ALC\)](#) says that the flow-on effects of industrial action pursued by the Construction Forestry Maritime Mining and Energy Union (CFMMEU) will have an adverse impact on Australian businesses and households.

“There has been major disruption to rail services at Port Botany in Sydney as a result of national Protected Industrial Action (PIA) that has been pursued by the CFMMEU over the past ten days. This is now having a significant effect on the capacity of rail operators to move freight into and out of the port precinct,” said ALC CEO Kirk Coningham.

“As Port Botany moves the greatest amount of containerised freight by rail nationally, it is not possible to replace all cancelled rail services with road services – and accordingly, we are witnessing major delays to the movement of freight.”

“This is already imposing significant costs on rail freight logistics operators that will have to be passed on to customers and consumers.”

“ALC understands that although the PIA has been withdrawn at some sites, there is still no resolution at Port Botany.”

“The PIA has included bans on employees working in tasks above their normal grade, overtime, shift extensions, accepting late call ins and no advanced or delayed start times. This obviously has an impact on the ability of freight logistics operators to conduct their day-to-day business activities.”

“Delays in rail freight movement at Port Botany will ultimately have a negative consequence on overall national supply chain efficiency.”

“Australian logistics customers and consumers should not be the ones who end up paying the price for an industrial dispute. ALC hopes that the CFMMEU can work with the industry cooperatively and productively to resolve any outstanding issues, and that a solution can be found promptly.”

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