



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Issued: June 24 2004

Chair: Paul Neville MP

## Report of the inquiry into train visibility recommends reflective strips on the sides of all trains

The report of an inquiry into improving train visibility and reducing level crossing accidents was tabled today by Paul Neville MP the Chair of the House of Representatives Transport Committee.

The report, *Train Illumination*, looks at the need for better lighting on the front and sides of trains to reduce the number of collisions with road vehicles at passive crossings.

“The committee found that, nationally, more accidents occur during daylight and at controlled crossings but anything we can do in a cost effective way to reduce accidents at night and at passive crossings is worth considering,” Mr Neville said.

The committee recommended that all locomotives and rolling stock in the Australian rail industry be fitted with standard reflective strips or reflective paint, and that all locomotives be fitted with rotating beacon lights.

Mr Neville said that “reflective strips and rotating beacons should significantly increase the visibility of the fronts and sides of trains, and help prevent collisions at passive crossings without imposing an unrealistic cost burden on the industry”.

The committee also recommended that a level crossing risk scoring system based on the Queensland model be adopted as a national standard.

Other recommendations dealt with the installation of rumble strips on the approaches to crossings and the need for a level crossing education program for vehicle drivers.

**To arrange media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Paul Neville, on (02) 6277 4940 or (07) 4152 0744

**For further information,** including copies of the report, visit the inquiry website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/trs/](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/trs/) or phone (02) 6277 2352