



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services

**MEDIA ALERT**

Issued: 30 March 2005

Chair: Paul Neville MP

### New Inquiry

## **Inquiry into integration of regional road and rail networks and their connectivity to ports**

The House of Representatives Transport and Regional Services Committee is to conduct an inquiry into the integration of regional road and rail networks and their connectivity to ports.

The inquiry has been requested by the Federal Minister for Transport and Regional Services, John Anderson.

The Chair of the Committee, Paul Neville, said the inquiry will examine the operation of regional road and rail networks in handling the rapidly growing task of moving Australia's freight. An important part of this inquiry will be a consideration of the way those networks connect with ports.

Mr Neville said that the Committee would be looking for ways in which greater efficiency can be achieved in the freight transport task, and how the three levels of government can co-operate to achieve this outcome.

The full terms of reference for the inquiry are attached.

The committee is seeking written submissions by Monday 9 May 2005.

Submissions can be e-mailed to [trs.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:trs.reps@aph.gov.au) or sent to the following address:

Transport and Regional Services Committee  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Further information and advice on making submissions, can be found at:  
[www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/trs](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/trs).

#### **For media comment:**

Please contact the Committee Chair, Paul Neville, on (07) 4152 0744

#### **For background information:**

Please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352 or by email at [trs.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:trs.reps@aph.gov.au)

# INQUIRY INTO THE INTEGRATION OF REGIONAL RAIL AND ROAD FREIGHT TRANSPORT AND THEIR INTERFACE WITH PORTS

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services is to inquire into:

- the role of Australia's regional arterial road and rail network in the national freight transport task;
- the relationship and co-ordination between Australia's road and rail networks and their connectivity to ports;
- policies and measures required to assist in achieving greater efficiency in the Australian transport network, with particular reference to:
  - land transport access to ports;
  - capacity and operation of major ports;
  - movement of bulk export commodities, such as grain and coal;
  - the role of intermodal freight hubs in regional areas;
  - opportunities to achieve greater efficiency in the use of existing infrastructure; and
  - possible advantages from the use of intelligent tracking technology;
- the role of the three levels of Government and the private sector in providing and maintaining the regional transport network.