



National Trunk Rail Pty Ltd
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NTR Supports NSW Farmers on Inland Rail

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A demand by the NSW Farmers' Association for the Federal Government to immediately commit funding for inland rail has been welcomed by National Trunk Rail (NTR), Australia's private sector proponent for the freight line.

NSW Farmers recent Executive Council meeting voted unanimously that its number one priority is that the government should commit to and invest in the inland rail. (www.nswfarmers.org.au/news)

NTR Chairman Martin Albrecht AC welcomed the intervention by NSW Farmers and said momentum was building for the Federal Government to take decisive action on inland rail.

"NTR is in lock step with NSW Farmers' call for the Federal Government to 'carefully consider all the options available to guarantee the best result for farmers'," Mr Albrecht said.

"The best way to progress inland rail is via a competitive Public Private Partnership process and NTR calls on the Federal Government to get on with it and for industry and peak infrastructure bodies to endorse the PPP approach as the proven and best way to optimise private sector participation in the delivery of major infrastructure."

Mr Albrecht said NTR's inland freight rail project would transform productivity of the logistics supply chain in the eastern states and allow commerce, industry, mining and agribusiness to capitalise on domestic and export opportunities – "which is what farmers in NSW are calling for".

"NTR has invested more than \$10 million to develop our plans for a rail system that is shorter, straighter, flatter and faster than that proposed by the Federal Government's Australian Rail Track Corporation," Mr Albrecht said.

"NSW Farmers say they want to 'see real intermodal transfer and to achieve that we need action now'. NTR agrees - the time for Federal Government action is now."

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About NTR: The National Trunk Rail group (www.nationaltrunkrail.com) combines decades of engineering, economic and policy experience among its members. Besides Mr Albrecht, it also includes former Queensland Rail CEO Vince O'Rourke, former CEO of Queensland Investment Corporation Dr Doug McTaggart, former Queensland Under Treasurer Mark Gray and former Director-General of the Queensland Department of the Premier and Cabinet Jon Grayson.

Media inquiries:

Barton Green
0411 702 209
barton.green@principalis.com.au

Martin Albrecht AC
National Trunk Rail
07 3512 5602

Suite 2, Level 1, 5 Gardner Close
Milton Qld 4064