



FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

Hon Rita Saffioti
Minister for Transport; Planning; Lands
Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
West Perth WA 6005

Dear Minister

Council Update

At the recent meeting of the Council, several key issues arose that I thought worth bringing to your attention. They included:

a) Levy/Rebate Proposal from On-Port Operators

Some months ago, a proposal came forward to the Council from some major freight companies with premises at Rous Head to introduce a levy/rebate system aimed at encouraging more off-peak truck movements and greater use of the rail system. The Council and Fremantle Ports engaged an independent consultant to analyse the proposal. After comprehensive consultation with local industry stakeholders, the consultant concluded that the proposal was unlikely to achieve its stated aims and that there was not widespread industry support for it. Notwithstanding, the consultations did confirm our own discussions that there is value in further examining a number of related initiatives including other means of incentivising off-peak movements, developing an information strategy to promote the freight rail service and assessing the case for some greater use of large capacity trucks consistent with the Government's policy of support for freight rail. These initiatives are now being examined by the Council and your own Departments/agencies.

b) Protection of Freight Corridors

Industry members are well aware of the importance of the current review of State Planning Policy 5.4 and have agreed to lend their financial support to developing a comprehensive Council submission to it. The background to this discussion is the long-held industry belief that the current policy is inadequate in protecting both the interests of industry and the community in the vicinity of major freight corridors. Planning specialists and acoustic experts have been engaged to assist development of the submission. Once concluded, we intend to liaise with key stakeholders as to its views prior to formal submission in mid-December. This liaison phase of the exercise will involve discussion with your own office, that of your colleague the Minister for Housing, relevant Government Departments and agencies, together with the land development industry through the UDIA. Members are extremely conscious of the need to seek improvements to the current policy as it may be many years before the next review is held.

Minister, I might also add the comment that with the growing recognition of the Council, there are growing calls from industry to be on it. The last meeting had nearly 30 people in attendance. That becomes an unwieldy forum for useful discussion. We have previously suggested to you that the Council comprise a smaller group of key players, perhaps a dozen in number, supported by a series

of project-specific working groups that pull in other industry representatives with a specific interest. Your advice on that suggestion would be helpful in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Lockwood", with a horizontal line underneath. The signature is slightly blurred and has a yellowish highlight behind it.

Nicole Lockwood
Chair
04/11/2017