

# National Ports Strategy

## Public Consultation

The Prime Minister requested the National Transport Commission and Infrastructure Australia develop a National Ports Strategy for consideration by the Council of Australian Governments in 2010.

To inform the Council of Australian Governments, the National Transport Commission and Infrastructure Australia are seeking public comments on a draft Strategy Document available at [www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au](http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au) or [www.ntc.gov.au](http://www.ntc.gov.au).

The draft Strategy Document includes recommendations for the Council of Australian Governments including that:

- Australia adopts a National Ports Strategy as part of a nationally coordinated approach to the future development and planning of Australia's economic port and freight infrastructure.
- The Strategy be set out in a public document including:
  - **A vision;** *"The overarching purpose of the draft Strategy is to drive the development of efficient sustainable ports and related freight logistics that together balance the need of a growing Australian community and economy with the quality of life aspirations of the Australian people".*
  - **Objectives;** *"to improve the efficiency of port related freight movements across infrastructure networks, minimise externalities associated with such freight movements and influence policy making in areas relevant to freight."*
  - **Priorities;**
    - *Planning for relevant ports*
    - *Protection of the ability to execute plans*
    - *Improving landside efficiency and reliability, and*
    - *Clarity, transparency and responsibilities in ports.*
- It is proposed that an independent panel and the National Transport Commission would oversee implementation of the Strategy.

The development of a comprehensive national freight policy is being developed. The national ports strategy is a key element.

The National Transport Commission and Infrastructure Australia are developing a national freight network plan and an overarching national freight strategy.

A number of jurisdictions are well advanced in developing jurisdictional freight network plans.

Drawing together all those elements will provide an overarching national freight plan for Australia.

Submissions can be made to:

The Infrastructure Coordinator  
Infrastructure Australia  
GPO Box 594  
CANBERRA 2601

Submissions close 28 May 2010

*Submissions will be placed on Infrastructure Australia's website unless they are marked "confidential".*