

20 December 2017

The ARA welcomes the Prime Minister's ministerial reshuffle announcement

The Australasian Railway Association (ARA) welcomes the Prime Minister's ministerial reshuffle announcement yesterday which confirms the Commonwealth Government's commitment to the rail sector by elevating the infrastructure and transport policy agendas into the Deputy Prime Minister's portfolio.

ARA CEO, Danny Broad, welcomes the appointments of the Hon. Barnaby Joyce as Minister for Infrastructure and Transport and the Hon. Paul Fletcher as Minister for Urban Infrastructure and Cities and thanks outgoing Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon. Darren Chester MP and his team for their strong ongoing support to the ARA and the rail sector more broadly.

"The Deputy Prime Minister has been a staunch advocate for the Inland Rail project from the get-go and we look forward to working with the Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP and his team to ensure that rail continues to play a significant role in our cities and in our regional communities," said Danny Broad, CEO, ARA.

"The ARA will continue to work closely with the Commonwealth to ensure the National Rail Industry Plan's objectives are achieved through an implementation strategy involving a partnership between the rail industry and Federal, State and Territory governments.

"We also congratulate the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP on the expansion of responsibilities given to the Minister for Urban Infrastructure and Cities. This recognises that urban infrastructure is critical for the sustainable growth and development of our cities, of which rail is a key component.

"We thank the Hon. Darren Chester MP and his team for their close association and support to the rail industry and the National Rail Industry Plan. We thank him for committing financial support to the Inland Rail project in the 2017 Federal Budget, which will have a significant influence on the future of freight and supply chains in Australia," concluded Danny Broad.

/ends 20 December 2017

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