

ARA19DB/20

30 April 2019

Mr Nat Nagy
Executive Director
Australian Transport Safety Bureau
Via email: Railnotification.consultation@atsb.gov.au

Dear Mr Nagy,

ATSB Proposed amendments to requirements for reporting rail safety matters

I write on behalf of Australasian Railway Association (ARA) members in response to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) proposed amendments to industry reporting protocols.

The ARA and its members support the proposed changes to report all Category A and Category B notifiable occurrences directly to the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) but seek advice on how Rail Transport Operators (RTOs) will be promptly notified regarding the ATSB's intention to investigate and/or attend an incident site.

A single point of contact for reporting will simplify processes for industry and assist in removing duplication of current reporting activities. However, as this amendment will mean the ATSB is no longer in direct contact with an RTO making an incident notification, ARA members would value some clarity on how the ATSB will swiftly determine whether to investigate and/or attend incident sites, and within what anticipated timeframe RTOs will be notified of this decision.

Should you wish to discuss, please contact Emma Woods, General Manager Passenger and Corporate Services via ewoods@ara.net.au or 02 670 4507.

Yours sincerely,



Danny Broad
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Sue McCarrey, CEO, ONRSR
Julie Bullas, ED Policy, Reform and Stakeholder Engagement, ONRSR