NT Government invites public comment on draft National Remote and Regional Transport Strategy

2 June 2015

The Northern Territory Government is leading a national process to develop a comprehensive strategy that focuses on improving transport infrastructure opportunities in remote and regional areas.

Minister for Transport Peter Chandler said the draft National Remote and Regional Transport Strategy was now open for public consultation, following its release by the Transport and Infrastructure Council.

“The Strategy will aim to improve services to allow for better access to employment, education, health services and economic opportunities across remote and regional areas,” Mr Chandler said.

“It will also provide a nationally coordinated approach for addressing service delivery and regulation constraints that directly affect people living in remote and regional Australia.

“The Northern Territory is leading the way on these reforms by working closely with jurisdictions experiencing remote and regional transport challenges, in particular Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland and the Commonwealth.”

Territorians and stakeholders across Australia are encouraged to provide input into the draft strategy by 31 July 2015.

Mr Chandler said we want the focus to be on reducing costs for transport operators by improving roads through reforms to national funding arrangements.

“Changing the regulatory settings to establish consistency across borders for transport operators is a key objective, along with tax reform and better targeting of aerodrome security requirements,” he said.

“Local communities are set to benefit from the strategy as employment and economic benefits are unlocked.”

A final strategy is expected to be considered by the Transport and Infrastructure Council in November 2015 along with an implementation plan that supports the Strategy’s delivery.

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