



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

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ALBURY RAIL PROJECT SHORTLISTED FOR FUNDING

Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Minister for Roads Melinda Pavey and Member for Albury Greg Aplin today announced the Ettamogah Rail Hub has been shortlisted for funding in the next stage of the NSW Government's Fixing Country Rail infrastructure program.

The project involves extending the rail siding by 3500 metres and creating standing room to accommodate an 1800-metre long train, improving access to the Ettamogah Rail Hub.

Ms Berejiklian said the use of longer trains will cut delivery times and allow more goods to be transported by rail, reducing costs for both producers and consumers.

"The addition to the shortlist is great news for the area and means the siding expansion is in line to potentially share in \$150 million in funding," Ms Berejiklian said.

Mrs Pavey said Fixing Country Rail is designed for both small and large projects that will provide productivity and efficiency benefits that reduce the cost to market for the movement of freight in regional NSW.

"Transport costs can make up a third of the price of goods sold by regional producers harvesting grain, cotton, citrus, meat or other commodities and moving them to market," Mrs Pavey said.

Mr Aplin said regional NSW produces around 210 million tonnes of freight a year, with freight volume expected to double over the next 40 years.

"Economic growth, particularly in areas like Albury, relies on agricultural commodities, industrial products and natural resources being able to move to market efficiently," Mr Aplin said.

An economic case for the Ettamogah Rail Hub expansion will now be prepared for consideration by Infrastructure NSW early next year.

The NSW Government has set aside more than \$1 billion for regional road and rail projects under its Fixing Country Roads, Fixing Country Rail and Bridges for the Bush programs.

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