



Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Fishing and Boating

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Cr Kathy Majdlik
Mayor - Melton City Council
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Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 2 February 2021 regarding Melton City Council's 2021-22 State Government submissions.

As you know, the Victorian and Australian governments are investigating the development of a major new intermodal freight terminal (IFT) in Victoria, which will also incorporate a supporting freight precinct and associated rail and road network connections.

The Victorian Freight Plan – Delivering the Goods nominates the Western Intermodal Freight Terminal (WIFT) as the preferred location, subject to the completion of a business case. A site at Beveridge has also been identified as a potential location for a terminal.

The Department of Transport (DoT) has prepared a business case for the new terminal for consideration by both governments to confirm the preferred location for the IFT, while safeguarding a location for a second; the preferred road and rail connections and infrastructure required for the IFT; and plan the staged development of the Project. The business case considers both the Beveridge and Truganina sites, along with their transport connections, which for WIFT includes a rail connection via the Outer Metropolitan Ring Corridor.

The business case recognised all the benefits of WIFT identified in your submission, including WIFT being a catalyst for job growth in the region, its location in the centre of a major freight generating area and state-significant industrial precinct.

The IFT Project aligns with the Victorian and Australian government's strategic approach and policy objectives for Victoria's freight and logistics industry. Both governments will consider the business case recommendations in the coming months.

I trust this information is useful, and thank you again for sharing Council's submission.

Yours sincerely

Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Ports and Freight
12/4/2021

