

PRESS RELEASE

Date: **25th February 2010**

QUEENSLAND TO HOST SINGLE NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONALLY CONSISTENT ROAD LAW

In an historic statement to the Queensland Parliament this morning, the Queensland Minister for Transport Honourable Rachel Nolan MP announced the decision by the Australian Transport Minister's Council (ATC) that Queensland would host the Single National Regulator.

The Honourable Anthony Albanese the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government simultaneously issued a Press Release confirming the appointment of the Queensland jurisdiction as the host State for establishment of a new regulator responsible for establishing consistent national law and regulations for all vehicles over 4.5 tonnes.

"Today's announcements are without doubt the single most important decision taken for all Australian trucking operators and in particular Queensland operators, since the commencement of Road Reform by the then National Road Transport Commission in 1989" said Peter Garske, CEO Queensland Trucking Association Ltd. "This decision is a significant step in the delivery of national economic reform through policy coordination and the provision of industry incentives, adopted by the Prime Minister and the Council of Australian Governments (COAG)."

"Notwithstanding the decision taken by COAG and implemented by the ATC to establish a Single National Regulator, delay in determining the host State was creating uncertainty in the industry. That uncertainty has now been removed and the road freight industry stakeholders can look forward to active engagement in establishment of the Heavy Vehicle Regulator in Queensland" he said.

Queensland Trucking Association (QTA) congratulates the Queensland Transport Minister, Hon Rachel Nolan MP for her courage in fighting for the recognition of Queensland in this role as host of the new Regulator. The decision is a clear endorsement of what we in Queensland have known for a long period of time, and that is the ability of the Queensland Government, the relevant Queensland Government Agencies, the Director General and his Policy Staff to communicate effectively and deliver outcomes in relation to productivity, efficiency and safety, has been a shining beacon across the national landscape.

"Importantly in her statement to State Parliament this morning the Queensland Minister acknowledged TruckWeek 2010 (21-27 February) as a showcase of the industry's contribution to the economy and the community. It is significant that the Minister's announcement in relation to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator could be made during our inaugural TruckWeek activity" said Peter Garske.

Queensland Trucking Association, having been briefed by the Minister immediately prior to her announcement, is well placed to work with Member Organisations of the Australian Trucking Association to facilitate productive communication and consultation with the Queensland Government on this issue. It is proposed that all reforms will be fully implemented by 2013.

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