



**CIVIL CONTRACTORS
FEDERATION**

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Media Release

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Infrastructure Sector Weighs in on HVNL Review

Australia's infrastructure sector has weighed in on recent media reports regarding the pending review of Australia's *Heavy Vehicle National Laws and its supporting regulations* in the lead up to the next meeting of the Transport & Infrastructure Council on 9 November 2018.

The Civil Contractors Federation ('CCF') is the peak employer voice of the civil construction industry in Australia. CCF's 2,000 member companies are responsible for the construction and maintenance of Australia's roads, bridges, pipelines, drainage, ports and utilities. The heavy vehicle fleet in the sector is substantial and therefore CCF is taking a strong interest in the HVNL review.

CCF Chief Executive Officer Chris Melham said: "The CCF is calling on all Ministers to adhere to the *COAG Guide on Best Practice Regulation* for reviewing laws that were agreed to by the Council of Australian Government's in October 2007 to conduct the review of HVNL. This will ensure a nationally consistent approach is used to review HVNL in each jurisdiction, several of which have derogations to the model law in Queensland.

COAG has agreed that all governments will ensure that regulatory processes in their jurisdiction are consistent with the eight principles in the Guide, the first being, establishing a case for action before addressing a problem.

"All heavy vehicle stakeholders from both industry and government should be afforded the opportunity to contribute to the review, including the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator itself. The NHVR is the custodian of a wealth of market intelligence in the heavy vehicle industry and it should be afforded the opportunity to put forward recommendations and measures to further improve road safety and industry productivity, including where it believes it is being constrained from doing so." Melham said.

"Overwhelmingly, since the collapse in the mineral resources sector, the biggest driver of the pickup in non-mining civil work has been the rise in transport infrastructure investment, specifically, roads and rail construction. Over the next two years, BIS Oxford Economics is forecasting further growth in publicly funded engineering construction as the Commonwealth Government's current Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP) meshes with the various State (and Local) Government initiatives.

Amendments to Heavy Vehicle National Law that can improve civil productivity will lead to greater prosperity for all Australians", Melham said.

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About the Civil Contractors Federation

The Civil Contractors Federation ('CCF') is the peak employer body representing over 2,000 companies engaged in civil construction in every jurisdiction of Australia. CCF Members are responsible for the construction and maintenance of Australia's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, pipelines, drainage, ports and utilities. CCF members also play a vital role in the residential and commercial building construction industry by providing earthmoving and land development services including the provision of power, water, communications and gas.

Constructing Australia's Infrastructure