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NSW PORTS WELCOMES THE CONFIRMATION OF FUNDING OF THE PORT BOTANY FREIGHT LINE DUPLICATION

Completing the duplication of the Port Botany Freight Rail Line between Port Botany and Mascot is an essential requirement to meet the growing freight demands of Sydney and to help grow the rail transport of containers to and from Port Botany.

Every one million TEU moved by rail reduces the number of trucks on the roads around Port Botany by more than 900 trucks each day.

The duplication of the freight rail line will both increase reliability for rail operators now and create long-term capacity.

The duplication, which will facilitate rail freight, will also support existing and planned intermodal terminals.

NSW Ports CEO Marika Calfas said, "About 440,000 TEU each year travel by rail to and from Port Botany and this volume is growing. Completing the duplication of the Port Botany freight line will ensure reliability of freight rail access to Port Botany and resilience in the event of disruption on the single track.

"We have a target to move 3 million TEU by rail in the long term. The duplication of the freight line is essential to achieve this objective and will benefit Sydney with reduced volumes of trucks on roads around the Port.

"Today's announcement by the Federal and NSW State Governments is good news for all Sydneysiders as we all rely on containerised freight for our everyday needs. More than 42% of items inside Sydney's houses have entered the country via a container at Port Botany.

"NSW Ports thanks the Federal and NSW State Government for their ongoing commitment to improving the efficiency of port supply chains which supports the residents and businesses of NSW."

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About NSW Ports

NSW Ports is the custodian of Port Botany and Port Kembla, key export and import gateways, and the Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre and the Cooks River Intermodal Terminal.

NSW Ports is a private consortium of leading institutional investors: IFM Investors (including Cbus, HESTA and Hostplus), Australian Super, Tawreed Investments Limited and Q Super. Our shareholders represent over five million Australian superannuation fund members and are long term investors with interests in a range of Australian infrastructure assets.

Our role is to manage our assets in a way that allows our customers to efficiently service the needs of the people and businesses of New South Wales while minimising environmental and social impacts.

For more information: nswports.com.au