

Remote Areas Consultative Group

Communiqué

Meeting of 3 July 2019 - Adelaide

The Remote Areas Consultative Group (RACG) consists of government and industry representatives from the Northern Territory, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia.

A full list of member organisations is provided as an attachment to this Communiqué.

The purpose of the RACG is to act as an advisory body to provide a remote areas perspective on proposed and existing transport reforms.

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure hosted its first meeting of the RACG as part of a two year rotation of chairing duties.

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- **Future Direction of the RACG**– Members discussed the role of the RACG and endorsed that the group increase its focus on higher level strategic issues, whilst continuing to collaboratively progress operational matters which can materially improve outcomes for rural and remote transport.
 - **Road train steer axle mass allowance** - Members acknowledged the Northern Territory's new allowances for single steer of up to 7.0t (7.2t under permit) and 12.0t (twin-steer), and the Transport and Infrastructure Council's (TIC's) future consideration of an increase in the *Heavy Vehicle National Law* allowance for single steer from 6.7t to 7.1t.
 - **Remote Outback Border Access and Regulation Project** – Members received an update on this project which, as an action from the National Remote and Regional Transport Strategy, seeks to achieve consistency in access and operating conditions across borders. Members supported progression of the remaining operational matters, and to coordinate its work with existing nationally focussed initiatives to avoid duplication.
 - **Fatigue Risk Management** – Members discussed opportunities to contribute to this issue relating to rural and remote operators. This will be considered further at the next meeting.



- **Heavy Vehicle National Law Review** – Members received an update on this reform, and agreed to identify issues and opportunities relating to rural and remote operators for consideration as part of this review.
- Members welcomed information regarding work being undertaken in Western Australia regarding **Accredited Mass Maintenance Pavement Wear Percentage**, and by the Australian Road Research Board regarding Operations of **Automated Heavy Vehicles in Remote and Regional Areas**.

The next RACG meeting is scheduled for late October 2019 in Adelaide.

For further information, contact the RACG Secretariat on lillia.rozaklis@sa.gov.au or telephone (08) 8343 2475.

ATTACHMENT 1: MEMBERSHIP OF THE REMOTE AREAS CONSULTATIVE GROUP

	Organisation
Chair	Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (SA)
South Australia	Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (SA)
	Livestock and Rural Transporters Association of SA
	South Australian Road Transport Association
Western Australia	Main Roads Western Australia
	Western Roads Federation
	Livestock and Rural Transport Association of WA
Queensland	Department of Transport & Main Roads (QLD)
	Livestock and Rural Transporters Association of QLD
	Queensland Trucking Association
Northern Territory	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (NT)
	Northern Territory Road Transport Association
National Bodies	National Transport Commission
	National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
	National Road Transport Association
	Australian Road Research Board
Observers	Truck Industry Council
	Dept. of Infrastructure, Regional Development & Cities
	Transport for New South Wales