



## **Australasian Railway Association to discuss government infrastructure bidding process**

The Australasian Railway Association will appear before the House Infrastructure and Communications Committee at a public hearing on Wednesday 18 June 2014.

Australasian Railway Association represents a diverse range of rail-related interests in Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia. The Association's submission to the inquiry highlights a range of planning and procurement issues faced by the wider rail industry.

For example, Australasian Railway Association states that government can reduce the time and financial cost imposed on rail industry participants by reducing or streamlining the requirements of the infrastructure bidding process. This, it says, can be achieved through measures including improved initial concept design specifications and a reduction in the additional material required by government relating to non-design issues.

Committee Chairman, Jane Prentice MP said prior to the hearing that rail is one of the most rapidly developing infrastructure sectors in Australia. She noted that major rail projects, both passenger and freight, are in the pipeline around Australia and that "with proposed major developments including high speed rail along Australia's east coast, discussions around future rail infrastructure needs are crucial".

Details of the hearing are as follows:

**Date:** Wednesday 18 June 2014  
**Time:** 8.15am – 9.00am  
**Place:** Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House CANBERRA

Further information on the inquiry, including the full terms of reference and how to prepare a submission can be obtained from the Committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/ic](http://www.aph.gov.au/ic) or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chairman, (07) 3378 1599 or (02) 6277 4426

**Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2352, email [ic.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ic.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee's webpage at [www.aph.gov.au/ic](http://www.aph.gov.au/ic)