



SUSTAINABILITY

FACT SHEET

ABOUT INLAND RAIL

Inland Rail is a once-in-a-generation project that will enhance supply chains and complete the backbone of the national freight network by providing for a transit time of 24 hours or less for freight trains between Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

Inland Rail will transform the way we move freight around the country, connect regional Australia to markets more efficiently, drive substantial cost savings for producers and consumers, and deliver significant economic benefits.

Comprising 13 individual projects and spanning more than 1,700km, Inland Rail is the largest freight rail infrastructure project in Australia and one of the most significant infrastructure projects in the world.

The Australian Government selected the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) to deliver Inland Rail, in partnership with the private sector.

The Australian Government has committed \$9.3 billion to the delivery of Inland Rail, with construction having commenced in late 2018. Inland Rail is expected to be fully operational in 2025, and one 1,800m double-stacked train operating on Inland Rail will carry the same volume of freight as 110 B-double trucks.

Better infrastructure and an effective national freight operation are key to delivering efficient supply chains, improving Australia's global competitiveness and lifting our nation's wealth and prosperity.

ARTC'S COMMITMENT

ARTC aims to deliver and operate the Inland Rail Program with the least environmental, cultural heritage and social impact possible, while providing new benefits to the people of Australia at a local, regional and national scale.

Sustainability refers to an organisational culture that enables these new benefits to be identified, implemented and reported across the Program.

ARTC has developed a set of objectives and targets to drive sustainable outcomes for the assessment, design, construction and operation of the Program. The Inland Rail Environment and Sustainability Policy defines ARTC's commitment to sustainability and guides the incorporation of practical sustainability measures across the Program.

The policy addresses the triple bottom line and seeks to create a culture of sustainability across Inland Rail through actions with tangible long term benefits.

THE NEED FOR INLAND RAIL

Australia's freight volumes are expected to grow by 80% by 2030 to approximately 32 million tonnes per year. If nothing changes, this will mean even greater road congestion due to more trucks impacting our national and local road networks. The first train is scheduled to operate in 2025 and each 1,800m train using the Inland Rail network has the ability to remove the equivalent of 110 B-double trucks from our roads by transporting freight in a cost and time competitive way.

This sustainable solution will slash Australia's fuel bill and associated greenhouse gas emissions, moving our consumer goods and exports with as little as one-third of the fuel that it would take to move the load on our highways. It will also improve the safety of the road network and enhance the quality of living for those living near major road networks.

Inland Rail will provide freight customers on the east coast with competitive pricing, 98% reliability, a transit time from Melbourne to Brisbane of less than 24 hours, flexibility for faster and slower services, and freight that is available when the market wants.

HOW WILL ARTC EMBED SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS THE INLAND RAIL PROGRAM?

ARTC is committed to industry leadership in sustainable design, construction and operation, and will monitor and report sustainability performance of the Inland Rail Program across the delivery cycle.

A Sustainability strategy has been developed for the Program underpinned by leadership, resources and systems and process. Each Inland Rail project will develop its own sustainability management plan and will be updated for each delivery phase of the project.

ARTC has registered for a program rating for the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia's (ISCA) Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) rating scheme, for assessment of the design phase.

Each project will be assessed against the ISCA framework providing consistency across the Program and continually challenging the projects to deliver beyond business as usual outcomes.

WHAT IS ISCA?

ISCA is the peak body for infrastructure sustainability in Australia. ISCA is an independent third party that administers the IS rating system which is an industry-compiled voluntary sustainability performance rating scheme. The system evaluates the sustainability of design, construction and operation of all infrastructure asset classes in all sectors linking industry, communities and commerce beyond regulatory standards. ISCA rates infrastructure performance against 15 categories including governance, energy, water, materials, heritage, ecology, community development and innovation.

REFERENCE DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT

Projects delivered under the Inland Rail Program which require environmental assessment need to include sustainability considerations. For example, in Queensland, projects being assessed under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* require the Environmental Impact Statement to describe how the development's design and operation contributes to social, economic and environmental sustainability.

A sustainability management plan will be prepared during the reference design and assessment phase for all projects, identifying sustainable design and delivery opportunities and commitments.

DESIGN

The cornerstone of the Program's approach to sustainability is the demonstration of an IS rating during the design phase. All projects will be required to demonstrate progress towards achievement of a minimum rating of 'Excellent'.

An excellent rating represents going beyond 'business as usual' and beyond merely compliance with statutory requirements to achieving additional social, environmental and economic benefits in a cost-effective manner.

CONSTRUCTION

The construction sustainability management plan will outline the elements and actions required to comply with the project conditions of approval (where relevant), the requirements documented in the design, and how ARTC's sustainability objectives and targets will be delivered during the construction process. Inland Rail projects will also target an As-built IS rating of 'Excellent' as a minimum.

OPERATION

Once completed, Inland Rail will enable the movement of Australia's consumer goods and exports with as little as one-third of the fuel it would take to move the same load on our highways.

Inland Rail will provide a second link between Queensland and the southern states, making Australia's national freight rail network less vulnerable to disruptions, like extreme weather events.

Achieving IS certification will ensure that ARTC has delivered the Inland Rail Program sustainably with many positive benefits being realised by the community and the natural environment for the long life of the project.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

ARTC is committed to working with landowners, communities, state and local governments as a vital part of our planning and consultation work, and we value your input. If you have any questions or comments about this fact sheet, please let us know.

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ARTC

The Australian Government is delivering Inland Rail through the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), in partnership with the private sector.

CURRENT AS AT APRIL 2019