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## SAL welcomes review of WA's port infrastructure needs

'Shipping Australia welcomes the appointment of a high powered team by WA Transport Minister Simon Brien to help guide the critical future expansion of Fremantle Port,' Llew Russell, Chief Executive Officer of Shipping Australia said today. 'We agree that in recent years port planning processes have been ad hoc and inadequate including poor road links and the need to develop a viable and sustainable rail freight link.

'We also agree that Fremantle Ports and James Point Pty Ltd working together will assist all parties in relation to future port planning' he said.

Mr Russell noted that the Minister said that transport operators and stevedores would be included in the interested parties consulted by the review team but it was noted by SAL members that ship operators were not specifically mentioned nor in fact importers and exporters in Western Australia. Nevertheless, SAL is confident that the review team will seek guidance from all parties and SAL looks forward to being part of that consultative process.

The review team will be chaired by the former Main Roads Commissioner, Greg Martin and include Planning and Infrastructure Director General, Eric Lumsden and WA Port Operations Chairman, Professor Fred Affleck.

'We noted that the planning group will start work immediately and the Shipping Australia Western Australia Committee is ready to participate in the review process as soon as required by the planning group.'

### **For further information:**

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