

Wednesday, 21 November 2012

Community feedback invited on Hexham train support facility

A proposed train support facility at Hexham, north-west of Newcastle, is being publicly exhibited by the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

QR National is seeking planning approval for the construction and operation of a train support facility to support its operations in the Hunter Valley Coal Chain and meet the company's rolling stock maintenance needs.

The facility would support the removal of existing QR National rail facilities from the Newcastle Port terminals in a bid to improve the efficiency of coal loading operations at the Kooragang Coal Terminal.

Key components of the proposed project include:

- Construction of new connections to the Great Northern Railway (GNR);
- Construction of 10 new train tracks and sidings parallel to the existing main railway line to accommodate trains for inspections, servicing and maintenance;
- Buildings to accommodate general maintenance activities for locomotives and rolling stock;
- A bulk fuel storage area with capacity for up to 400,000 litres of diesel fuel; and
- Construction of an intersection and a new vehicular access road from the Tarro Interchange.

The environmental assessment for the project will be publicly exhibited between **Wednesday 21 November** and **Friday 21 December 2012**.

Submissions received during the public exhibition period, along with the proponent's response to submissions document, will be made available on the department's website. The submissions and proponent's response will be carefully considered as part of the department's assessment of the project.

All relevant project documents will be publicly available on the department's website at <http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au>, following the links to the 'On Exhibition' page.

The environmental assessment for the modification is available to view during business hours at the:

- **Department of Planning and Infrastructure** - Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney;
- **Nature Conservation Council** - Level 2, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown;
- **Newcastle City Council Chambers** - City Administration Centre, 282 King Street, Newcastle; and
- **Newcastle City Library** – Corner Lawson Avenue and Ogilvie Street, Beresfield.

Submissions can be:

- Emailed to plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au or lodged online via the entry for the project on the department's website (<http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au>);
- Posted to Major Projects Assessment, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001; or
- Faxed to (02) 9228 6355.

Media contact: Laurel-Lee Roderick, (02) 9228 6128 or 0429 153 139

NOTE: The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is issuing this media release to encourage the community to take part in the planning process. However, it is the role of the proponent (either through its documents published on our website or otherwise) to provide further specific details about the proposal.