

Thursday, 10 September, 2015

Economic benefits flow from state-wide agricultural transport project

Regional economic growth is being boosted with the completion of more projects as part of a joint agricultural industry-government road transport project.

The Transport Minister Stephen Mullighan said the latest initiative from the 90-day review into agricultural transport was the approval of Higher Mass Limit vehicles to access 18 Viterra sites across South Australia.

“Approving these vehicles means heavier loads can enter these sites, meaning more grain can be delivered per load, increasing productivity and hopefully driving down transport costs in the future.”

Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock said the approval would bring significant economic benefits to the State,” Mr Brock said.

“Those regions will be the Eyre and Western, Yorke and Mid North, Murray and Mallee, and Barossa, Light and Lower North.

“The flow-on effects will have a huge impact across the supply chain, which is good news for South Australia’s regional growth and economic development.

“Upgrading heavy vehicle access to those sites means transport efficiency and farm productivity gains across regional South Australia this coming harvest.”

The 90-day project was an initiative between Primary Producers SA, Primary Industries and Regions SA and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure and led to the release of the report *A Modern Transport System for Agriculture: a new partnership approach* in March.

PPSA Executive Chair Rob Kerin said it was already delivering benefits which would have long-term impacts for primary producers and transport operators.

“Of the 184 issues that were raised as part of the project, 47 of these have already been resolved. This is a fantastic result for regional South Australia,” Mr Kerin said.

“An additional 12 issues are currently being investigated, having been identified as feasible with work underway to progress them to resolution.

“The site access approvals being announced today are a significant win for primary producers, who will be able to cart grain more efficiently this harvest.”

Other key reforms from the 90-day project to date include:

- The approval of quad road train combinations between Port Augusta and the Northern Territory border
- The introduction of tri-axle dollies for use in road train combinations
- Reduced driver logbook reporting red tape
- Simplifying systems for registering multiple farm vehicles

The full report can be downloaded from www.pir.sa.gov.au/agtransport.

The site access approvals will be made at:

Viterra site	Region	Approval
Meribah via Loxton	Murray and Mallee	From GML B-double to HML B-double
Wunkar	Murray and Mallee	From GML B-double to HML B-double
Peebinga via Loxton	Murray and Mallee	From GML B-double to HML B-double
Two Wells	Barossa, Light and Lower North	Extend HML Road train from Pt Wakefield Road to Viterra site
Orroroo	Yorke and Mid North	From GML B-double to HML B-double
Lameroo	Murray and Mallee	From GML B-double to HML B-double
Yongala	Yorke and Mid North	From GML double road train to HML road train
Monarto South	Murray and Mallee	From GML B-double to HML B-double
Kimba	Eyre and Western	From GML semi-trailer to HML road train
Kapunda	Barossa, Light and Lower North	From GML semi-trailer to HML semi-trailer
Saddleworth/Auburn	Yorke and Mid North	From HML semi-trailer to HML B-double
Poochera	Eyre and Western	From GML semi-trailer to HML road train
Jamestown	Yorke and Mid North	From HML semi-trailer to HML B-double
Cungena	Eyre and Western	From GML semi-trailer to HML road train
Gladstone	Yorke and Mid North	From HML B-double to HML road train
Mallala/ Two Wells	Barossa, Light and Lower North	From HML 23m B-double to HML 26m B-Double
Auburn/ Halbury	Yorke and Mid North	From GML semi-trailer to HML B-Double
Yeelanna	Lower Eyre	Extend 36.5m road train access from intersection of Todd Hwy and railway