



LOGISTICS ASSOCIATION TO DELIVER COORDINATED IRON ORE SUPPLY CHAIN FOR THE MID-WEST

Media Statement 27 August 2008

The potential of the new integrated Oakajee port and rail infrastructure project will be maximised through a new governance framework, proposed by OPR Chief Executive Officer Chris Eves at the Mid-West Resources Forum in Geraldton today.

Mr Eves said bottlenecks and scheduling issues at other Australian export terminals, such as Dalrymple Bay in Queensland, highlighted the need for co-ordinated management of all parts of the mid-west transport supply chain.

“The performance of the supply chain – the interaction of mining, rail and port operations – will be a major factor in maximising the value of extraction and sale of export iron ore from the region, of creating efficiencies as well as creating new value - and we believe our integrated solution provides the best opportunity to bring all elements together to deliver that,” Mr Eves said.

“Coordination and cooperation are driving principles of our port and rail project.

“We plan to put together a Mid-West Logistics Association, comprising all iron ore producers and infrastructure service providers, to plan and manage the coordination of delivery of product from mine to customers.”

Mr Eves said the Mid-West Logistics Association could also provide a forum for long-term planning for any expansion of infrastructure and monitoring of the efficiency and value of the supply chain.

“Oakajee has been more than a decade in the making,” he said

“Now that we’ve moving forward with this important project, we want to make sure we deliver the best outcome for the industry and the region as a whole.”

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Mr Eves said once the State Government declared the rail route, OPR would move ahead with the development of its rail network to deliver a timely transport route for local miners.

“Our commitment to certainty and timeliness are aligned with the commercial imperatives of our customers and we look forward to delivering an integrated, coordinated transport solution to unlock the value of the mid-west.”

Mr Eves said the Association would also be a forum for consultation and coordination.

“Our focus now is to finalise the project parameters and the rail route with the State Government [later this year](#), as well as engaging local stakeholders and potential clients for the earliest possible start-up of the new integrated transport solution.”

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About OPR

Oakajee Port and Rail was established in September 2007, to pursue a joint venture between Murchison Metals Ltd (Murchison), Mitsubishi Development Pty Ltd (MDP) and Crosslands Resources Ltd (Crosslands).

OPR seeks to maximise value for the community, Government, its shareholders and customers from the development and coordinated operation of an iron ore supply chain comprising rail and port infrastructure for iron ore sourced from the mid-west region of Western Australia.

OPR was appointed the preferred proponent for the Oakajee Port project on 29 July 2008 and will now progress an integrated rail and port infrastructure solution for the mid-west.

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