

# Western Sydney Freight Line and Intermodal Terminal

## Some commonly asked questions

### Why do we need an intermodal terminal in Western Sydney?

Western Sydney's growing population and economy are driving the demand for goods – especially imports moved by containers – and putting increasing pressure on existing rail and road networks.

By 2031, the Broader Western Sydney Employment Area will be a key destination for cargo arriving at Port Botany. Metropolitan intermodal terminals are critical for managing the rapidly growing import container trade and enabling more freight to be moved by rail.

The opportunity to identify a viable terminal site in Western Sydney is diminishing with the rapid pace of development in the region. Without an intermodal terminal and supporting freight rail connections Western Sydney will be dependent on road transport.

### When would an intermodal terminal be built?

Western Sydney will require a dedicated and operational freight line and terminal before 2030. The first step in this process is to identify and protect a feasible terminal site with community input.

### Does a Western Sydney Intermodal Terminal remove the need for the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal?

No. The volume of container freight moving through Port Botany is expected to triple in the next 20 years and will exceed current and planned intermodal capacity in Sydney. The Moorebank Intermodal Precinct and a terminal in Western Sydney will ultimately support separate freight markets – both the import container trade and the interstate freight task.

An intermodal terminal and dedicated freight line for Western Sydney will support economic growth, driving employment and increasing the amount of freight carried on rail that will reduce heavy vehicle trips on the Sydney Road Network.

### Is the Badgerys Creek Airport a logical place for a new intermodal terminal?

The investigation into an intermodal terminal for Western Sydney will consider the Badgerys Creek airport site. The Commonwealth Government is leading the planning process for the airport.

### What is the status of the Western Sydney Freight Line?

The Western Sydney Freight Line and intermodal terminal is listed as a corridor preservation priority in the NSW Freight and Ports Strategy and NSW State Infrastructure Strategy 2014, and is currently in the early investigation phase.

Transport for NSW has collated information on previous investigations by Government into the Western Sydney Freight Line and intermodal terminal along with up to date information on land use constraints such as flooding, ecology and existing infrastructure.

Investigations in 2015 will build on this existing work. Moving forward to identify a corridor will require extensive consultation with the community and key stakeholders over the next one to two years.

### Will the Western Sydney Freight Line connect to the Outer Sydney Orbital?

Yes. The Outer Sydney Orbital corridor will enable a connection between the Western Sydney Freight Line and the Main West Railway Line.

A future Western Sydney Freight Line would connect to an intermodal terminal site in Western Sydney. It is therefore critical that a terminal site is identified and protected. The Outer Sydney Orbital Corridor investigation will also examine potential east-west connections to an intermodal terminal site.