

23 March 2018

Mr Geoff Crowe  
Chief Executive Officer  
Port of Newcastle Operations Pty Ltd  
PO Box 790  
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear Mr Crowe,

### **Letter of Support – Port of Newcastle Container Terminal**

I was very pleased to be advised that your organisation is giving serious consideration to the development of a container terminal at the Port of Newcastle.

This matter was presented to our Council at their meeting of 22 March 2018 and it received overwhelming support and encouragement for you to move forward on this exciting project as quickly as possible.

Effective, efficient and reliable transport and logistics systems are fundamental to the economic prosperity of Moree Plains as well as other inland regions. The Moree Plains is ideally located in the heart of Australia's most productive agricultural area contributes in excess of \$1 billion of agricultural production which requires a transport system that can move high volumes of goods quickly, safely and cost effectively to the markets.

Given the significant freight demands of the Moree Plains, and other inland regions which comprise the food bowl of New South Wales, a container terminal located at the Port of Newcastle would be strategically placed to provide substantial economic and community benefits to be realised by allowing more efficient movement of freight to the markets.

Therefore, on behalf of Moree Plains Shire Council, I provide unequivocal support for the development of a container terminal at the port of Newcastle, which has potential to benefit inland regional Australia and the nation through a range of transport, logistics, and economic, social and environmental outcomes.

I would be pleased to discuss this matter in further detail and can be contacted on (02) 6757 3222 alternatively; you can contact John Carleton, Executive Projects Manager on (02) 6757 3242.

Yours Sincerely

Lester Rodgers  
**GENERAL MANAGER**