



INDUSTRY WELCOMES DECISION TO REOPEN VICTORIAN CONSTRUCTION

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Infrastructure Partnerships Australia welcomes the Victorian Government's announcement today to allow construction to restart from Tuesday next week.

"We applaud the Victorian Government for working with industry to outline a pathway for reopening next week," said Infrastructure Partnerships Australia Chief Executive Adrian Dwyer.

"The Victorian Government has made the right decision to allow authorised workers back on site and start contributing to the state's economic recovery again.

"The two-week construction shutdown has given the industry time to reset their approach to compliance and ensure effective management strategies can be put in place limit transmission on sites.

"The new worker travel requirement between metro and regional Victoria will also help in reducing risk of COVID transmission as case numbers continue increase across the state.

"While the decision to lift the 25 per cent workforce cap for large-scale sites at the 70 per cent vaccination threshold is understandable, it will ultimately impact on-time and on-budget performance, and the flow of essential funds down the supply chain.

"The inherent path dependency of infrastructure planning and delivery means that the pipeline will continue to remain out of sync with workforce caps in place.

"Analysis of ANZIP – Australia's definitive pipeline of infrastructure opportunities – shows construction on more than 25 major infrastructure projects and programs, worth a combined \$47 billion have seen disruptions due to the shutdown in Victoria.

"With authorised workers set to pick up the tools again on Tuesday, government and industry will need to work hard to get the pipeline back on track," said Mr Dwyer.

Infrastructure Partnerships Australia is the nation's infrastructure think tank, providing independent policy research focused on excellence in social and economic infrastructure.

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