



MEDIA RELEASE

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RESPONSE TO THE 90-DAY REVIEW PROVIDES WELCOME CLARITY, BUT QUESTIONS REMAIN

The Albanese Government’s response to the Review of the Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP), provides welcome clarity to a sector that has been hanging under a cloud of uncertainty, but it also poses new questions which must be answered, says industry think tank Infrastructure Partnerships Australia.

“The Government has delivered much needed clarity for the infrastructure sector to get back on track, identifying the projects and programs it will prioritise over the next decade,” Adrian Dwyer, Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia said.

“Reviewing the program was always a prudent move, and the Government has rightly concluded that the core aspects are vital to meet Australia’s economic aspirations and population growth demands.

“This announcement answers some important questions on the pipeline, but it also poses new questions that will need answering.

“Australia has enviable population growth and unmet demand for infrastructure. That’s a high-quality problem to have, but it’s a problem nonetheless.

“You need to build the infrastructure for the economy you want, not the one you’ve got.

“Where a project remains necessary, but the Commonwealth will no longer contribute to delivery, that leaves an unmet demand on state dollars.

“Australia’s states and territories have acute fiscal constraints and severely limited capacity to raise revenue – in short, they don’t have the big wallets, but they do have big responsibilities.

“If the practical effect is to transfer an ever-greater share of necessary infrastructure funding demand to the level of government that can least afford to pay, then the net outcome is less infrastructure.

“It seems counterintuitive to move the funding balance to the level of government least able to bear that cost.





“Ultimately, taxpayers care little which pot of their money investment comes from – but they care greatly that they have high quality infrastructure,” said Infrastructure Partnerships Australia Chief Executive Officer, Adrian Dwyer.

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

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