



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**16 July 2024**

### **RESPONSE TO THE FINAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT TOLL REVIEW IN NSW**

Industry think tank Infrastructure Partnerships Australia has responded to the final report of the NSW Independent Toll Review released today.

“Today’s report is a welcome step back from the precipice of sovereign risk that was threatened in the Panel’s interim advice, and as a result, the industry is breathing a sigh of measured relief,” says Infrastructure Partnerships Australia Chief Executive Adrian Dwyer.

“The final report has adopted a more measured tone particularly on the subject of the NSW Government’s contractual obligations, however, remains unnecessarily emotive in places which ultimately serves to undermine the perceived objectivity and strategic intent of the reviewers.

“While there have been some improvements, the proposed network tolling system of declining distance-based tolls remains poorly explained, unworkably complex and seemingly supported with a zealotry devotion that is exposed by the inelegance of the idea.

“If the core objective is simplicity, motorists shouldn’t need to carry an abacus around in their car to work out what their toll may be.

“With sovereign risk acknowledged and an outbreak of common sense now emerging, the next step must be for Government and concessionaires to get around a table and negotiate a system that is better for taxpayers and motorists.

“We welcome the work by the Minns Government, particularly Treasurer Mookhey and Minister Graham, that ensures the pathway to sensible reform remains open.”

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

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Kirsty Timsans 0403 782 752 | [kirsty.timsans@infrastructure.org.au](mailto:kirsty.timsans@infrastructure.org.au)

