



MINISTER FOR PORTS AND WATERWAYS
MINISTER FOR REGULATORY REFORM **MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS**

M E D I A R E L E A S E

Tripodi sets new guidelines for Port Corps

September 3, 2008

Ports and Waterways Minister Joe Tripodi said consumers will benefit from changes being made to the way Port Corporations operate following a review of competition and regulation in the industry.

Mr Tripodi released the NSW Government's response to the Competition and Infrastructure Reform Agreement (CIRA) review today.

"The NSW Government will now require port corporation boards to consider public policy along with commercial outcomes," Mr Tripodi said.

"The Government is not involved in managing our ports solely for commercial reasons - we are interested in securing economic growth by cutting costs to industry and passing those savings onto consumers."

Mr Tripodi said Port Corporations will also be required to engage with the supply chain to help improve productivity and efficiency.

This will include facilitating and coordinating landside port facilities and supply chain services.

"We will make sure Port Corporations engage with industry," Mr Tripodi said.

"We want to help reduce costs and improve the reliability of cargo movements between warehouses and the port.

"This will make export businesses more competitive and imported goods cheaper, giving extra benefits to consumers."

Mr Tripodi said the Government is implementing the NSW Ports Growth Plan and delivering the trade capacity needed to support the NSW economy.

"These reforms will help unlock necessary future capacity by removing bottlenecks in the supply chain," he said.

The NSW Government is also considering the use of regulatory powers to assist Port Corporations in their expanded role.

Mr Tripodi said the Government would examine port lease policy in order to establish greater alignment between major leases and Government policy.

"It is important Government sends a clear message on its policy objectives. Major leases such as those with our stevedores need to reinforce and support the Government's policy goals."

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