

Please accept the following as a formal submission on behalf of Wingecarribee Shire Council to the *Maldon to Dombarton Rail Link Feasibility Study*:

- The Maldon to Dombarton line is the focus of the study, but it should include other lines, especially the rail link from Port Kembla to Moss Vale, together and not in isolation ie study needs to broaden its terms of reference to include the potential benefits of a broader upgrade of the rail system in the Illawarra region
- Further to above the feasibility study should consider upgrade of the Moss Vale rail link including the provision of a northern rail spur servicing the Moss Vale Enterprise Zone.
- The importance of the Moss Vale Enterprise Zone and its future potential needs to be included in the discussion paper. The MVEZ is approximately 600 hectares of industrial land within the Wingecarribee Shire and has a status at State Government level through its inclusion in the Illawarra Employment Lands Taskforce. This taskforce is Chaired by the Minister for the Illawarra with administrative support from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Wollongong and aims to progress key employment lands within the Illawarra region. The feasibility study should recognise the strategic nature of the MVEZ and consider the upgrade of the MV rail line in conjunction with the Maldon to Dombarton line. In July 2006, Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Kembla Port Corporation for strategic cooperation to develop the Moss Vale concept inter modal. The main basis for the wide acceptance of the project to date is the fact we already have the major road and rail infrastructure in place, in particular the Moss Vale to Illawarra rail line that links our intermodal direct with the port.
- The Project Reference Group should be expanded to include a Wingecarribee Shire Council representative.

Regards

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