

MEDIA RELEASE

Industry Welcomes Government Action on Rest Stops

The [Australian Logistics Council](http://www.austlogistics.com.au) (ALC) has thanked the National Cabinet for its decision last night to permit roadhouses, dedicated truck rest stop facilities and truck driver lounges to remain open as Australia continues dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Heavy vehicle drivers are working harder than ever during this crisis to keep supplies moving, including getting goods into supermarkets and pharmacies. It is vital we make every effort to support their safety and wellbeing as they go about that task,” said ALC CEO Kirk Coningham.

“Heavy vehicle drivers are well-aware of their fatigue management obligations, and over the past week it has been distressing to hear from some that they have been unable to access shower facilities, healthy meal choices or even just seating areas when it comes time for them to take their breaks.”

“The decision made by the National Cabinet last night is a common-sense solution that ensures drivers can access the facilities they need to protect their health on the road and enhance the safety of all road users.”

“Heavy vehicle drivers are playing a critical role during the COVID-19 pandemic, not just in getting supplies to consumers, but also supporting many of our vital export sectors getting their goods to ports and air freight facilities, ensuring we can keep taking our products to the world and protect Australian jobs in the process.”

“I am particularly grateful to the Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack and the Assistant Minister for Road Safety and Freight Transport Scott Buchholz and their teams for their positive engagement with ALC and other industry groups on this matter over recent days.”

“ALC thanks all members of the National Cabinet for the positive decision they have taken to protect the health and safety of heavy vehicle drivers, and the contribution this will make to better safety across all our supply chains.”

ENDS

Tuesday, 31 March 2020

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