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19 March 2026

MEDIA RELEASE

ALC WELCOMES NATIONAL FUEL SUPPLY TASKFORCE

The Australian Logistics Council (ALC) welcomes the Australian Government's decision to establish a National Fuel Supply Taskforce led by Anthea Harris, which recognises the importance of coordinated action across the fuel supply chain.

Diesel is the primary energy source for Australia's supply chains, logistics, and freight transport, ensuring the movement of essential goods across the country. When fuel markets tighten or become volatile, the impacts are felt quickly across every supply chain and directly impact the cost of living.

ALC CEO Dr Hermione Parsons said the taskforce provides a timely mechanism to bring government and industry closer together as conditions continue to evolve.

"Fuel security is fundamental to the performance of the import, export and domestic freight supply chains and the costs of living." Dr Parsons said.

"Maintaining clear visibility across supply, demand and distribution will be important in the weeks and possible months ahead."

ALC said the USA-Israel-Iran War is causing massive global supply chain disruption, requiring a reassessment of how existing freight capacity is being used, including the role of rail in supporting more efficient fuel distribution.

"Better utilisation of the national freight network, including rail, can help ease pressure on the system during periods of disruption," Dr Parsons said.

ALC also reiterated that short-term cost pressures across the sector should not be overlooked, and will call for consideration of targeted, temporary adjustments to fuel excise.

"Diesel costs flow directly through the supply chain. Where there is scope to provide measured, short-term relief, it should be considered as part of the broader government response. The price of diesel has doubled over the last few weeks as a result of the war and that increase is causing immense pressure on Australia's road operators. At the same time Freight Rail must be considered as a supplementary measure with long term benefit." Dr Parsons said.

ALC will continue to work with government and industry to support the taskforce and ensure policy settings reflect the realities of how fuel and freight move across Australia.



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