Suite 2, 129 Fitzmaurice Street PO Box 1250 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 committee4wagga.com.au



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NSW Government Lodged via online submission

Submission - Inland Rail A21 EIS Response

Committee 4 Wagga is a not-for-profit member funded organisation with a mission to champion positive change for Wagga Wagga.

While Committee 4 Wagga has supported in-principle the Inland Rail Albury to Illabo project, there are several questions arising from the release of the Environmental Impact Statement.

Committee 4 Wagga respectfully requests the following:

- More information to be provided on the structural integrity of the rail viaduct crossing the Murrumbidgee floodplain in Wagga Wagga. Does the structure have the capacity to handle future freight weight demands, particularly those created by the proposed double stacked trains? An engineering assessment is required.
- Further investigation into the level crossing alternatives at Bourke Street and Fernleigh Road. These are major thoroughfares in the city. Increased rail use will have a significant impact on these level crossings which have high traffic flows.
- Details of the approximate cost of the proposed upgrade from Bomen to Kapooka. This is the specific section of the track which traverses the city of Wagga Wagga.
- A cost comparison between a bypass of the city and the proposed upgrade. The bypass is widely regarded as a preferred option should it prove feasible.

Committee 4 Wagga considers these four points to be crucial to the future of the Albury to Illabo project.

Among the concerns which must be addressed are potential traffic blockages and safety issues, noise and vibration effects, and infrastructure limitations.

Committee 4 Wagga makes its requests in the best interests of a thriving and involved community which will undergo major population growth during the developmental stages of Inland Rail.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Drummond Committee 4 Wagga chair