

## Inland Rail Submission

Apart from the obvious factors, such as noise and cutting the City of Wagga Wagga in half, this inland rail project has many more hidden elements than meet the eye. This project has been marketed to the public in a lighthearted and frivolous manner when, in fact, it is a rather intense long-term project that envisions the 'growth' or arguably the 'overgrowth' of Australia through the creation of new 'Smart Cities' located between Brisbane and Melbourne. The CLARA Project document refers to this proposal as the "Development of a smart city that achieves 14 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals", but this is an unelected organisation that has no relevance or authority over the Australian people. In-between the major capital cities of Brisbane and Melbourne, multiple 'new cities' will arise raising many questions as to why they are 'necessary', who will be living in these cities, and so on. Will Australian citizens have the choice as to where they live, or will the Government dictate this? As we know, it is also evident that there will be a lack of conventional modes of transport. It appears, that these proposed smart cities do not have provisions for roads or airports which are the preferred means of travel by most Australians. Ultimately, it will cripple the Australian economy, remove our sovereignty and freedom, and make us prisoners in our own country, creating a controlled dystopian society.

Currently, Australia is over AUD 1.5 trillion in debt (and this is rapidly increasing) to the central banking system without any visible strategic plans to repay this unprecedented figure. This inland rail project will dramatically increase Australia's current debt levels, and, without any doubt, it will increase the cost of living. According to CLARA, this project is estimated to cost AUD 14.5 billion, which is money which Australia does not have. As we know from previous NSW Government projects such as the light rail project in Sydney's CBD, there were major issues such as budget blowouts, major timeline lapses, disruptions to local businesses, and many forced closures of some businesses. In other words, the project proved to be a total disaster, costing the taxpayers over double the estimated cost. Perhaps our government thinks that 'Money Grows on Trees' or is happy to continue using the destructive 'helicopter cash' provided by the central banks. It is not sustainable for our governments to continue to sell bonds to central banks on a continuing basis. Australia needs to cut its ties with organisations such as the World Economic Forum and the United Nations which orchestrate such fruitless projects. These organisations do not have an interest in Australia's economic future or sustainability. Instead, they are working purely for the social elites in overseas countries, and, in fact, they appear to be setting Australia up for complete and utter failure as their plans defy economic logic. If this project goes ahead, it is likely that Australia will default on its debt repayments which will eventually result in bankruptcy. In turn, this leaves the lingering questions of who are responsible and how will this impact our citizens?

The NSW Government is only superficially informing the public of this project and it has not provided the public with a satisfactory rationale for a project of this size, scope, and importance. This project receives very little attention from the mainstream media and there has been negligible public consultation. In addition, the information that is available is presented in an overly simple and ambiguous format, leaving a mountain of questions that need to be answered. There are many residents who do not have any idea about this project and, therefore, they are unable to voice their opinions. The NSW Government uses the mainstream media to deliberately distract the public's attention from the real issues. The NSW Government is attempting to hide the details and ramifications of this project under the blanket of bureaucracy.

A major concern associated with this projected which has been identified project is the potential for forced land acquisitions. To this point, it is unclear as to how the NSW Government plans to obtain

the required land in order to complete this and ancillary projects which is necessary for the creation of the Smart Cities. As a matter of urgency, the NSW Government needs to address the issue of whether existing homeowners will be forced out? Will this project mean that farmers are forced off natural rich and fertile farming land which, in turn, is currently producing food to feed our ever-increasing population, which continues unabated? Does this project mean that there will be future famines as Australia will be overpopulated and there will be a lack of farming land available for food production?

Furthermore, questions can be raised about the funding model of this project. As stated in the CLARA project documents "The CLARA plan proposes to use the proceeds of future land sales to fund the cost of establishing new smart cities and high-speed rail. This approach shifts away from traditional funding models". The foregoing statement is extremely vague, and it does not clearly explain the project's funding model. The average person would find statements like these to be confusing. One interpretation could be that taxes would be raised significantly for private citizens who own land while another interpretation could be that there will be forced land acquisitions for those who cannot afford the new taxes. The latter outcome could equate to a socialist approach (stakeholder capitalism) to land ownership to fund this undesirable United Nations venture. Regardless of differing interpretations and scenarios, the project will make the affordability of land and housing untenable for the average Australian citizen.

Most Australians are currently satisfied with their way of life, and they do not see the need for the radical changes inherent in the CLARA Project. Australia already possesses an efficient existing rail network between Brisbane and Melbourne. Most major cities have established airports and Australia has an extensive road network that is adequate and provides people with the freedom to travel from one part of the country to another.

Moreover, there are issues with the submissions process associated with the CLARA Project. Firstly, the timeframe for making submissions is from 17<sup>th</sup> August to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022. For a project of this size and extent, this is not an adequate amount of time for interested parties and the population at large to undertake research, digest information, and formulate submissions. Secondly, the process is complicated as the issues inherent therein are many, varied, sensitive, and they require extensive consideration. Many citizens do not have Internet access and many also do not have the knowledge or skills to proceed through this process. Also, views have been expressed that people have issues with registering their submissions through the official website. There is also a lack of media coverage to inform the public of this process. The NSW Government needs to be clearer and more explicit with their documentation and use language that can be easily comprehended by all members of the community. The Government also needs to be more transparent with the public to ensure everyone can access public information and that no one is excluded from this process. The NSW Government should work only in the interests of the Australian people not in the interests of foreign unelected entities.

Overall, based on the contents of my submission outlined above, I totally object to this project in its entirety. This project will not bring economic prosperity to Australia but, rather, it will lead to its total economic disruption and destruction. It is a burden on taxpayers, and it is an imposition on our way of life. It is obvious that from the information presented that there are numerous major omissions of vital facts, and the average person cannot envision how this project will function.