Freight, logistics and distribution

As Australia’s economy and population grow, Regional NSW’s freight, logistics and distribution sector is becoming even more vital to the country’s economy.
As demand for Australian products rises, Regional NSW is playing an ever more crucial role in making sure goods get to market securely and efficiently.

In 2018, the freight, logistics and distribution sector in Regional NSW contributed A$6.4 billion to the NSW state economy. In 2016, the freight, logistics and distribution sector in Regional NSW employed 51,232 people, more than 25% of the state workforce in this sector.

A thriving population and growing industry presence is creating significant demand for investment in the sector. High volumes of commodities, manufactured goods, agriculture and wholesale items are moved around NSW.

As Australia’s most populous state and the central jurisdiction along the eastern seaboard, these volumes are expected to grow significantly in coming years. The NSW Freight and Ports Plan released in 2018 estimates that NSW’s freight requirements are set to grow by 28% by 2036. Key priorities over the next five years include investment in new and improved infrastructure, delivering key infrastructure projects for freight in NSW and improving travel times.

The Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan is the NSW Government’s blueprint for transport in Regional NSW to 2056. It sets out the Government’s thinking on the big trends, issues, services and infrastructure needs which are now and will shape transport in Regional NSW.
A multi-modal network of transport infrastructure exists to support freight and logistics companies with good coverage in all regional areas. This network will receive a significant boost with the construction of the A$9.3 billion Inland Rail network between Brisbane and Melbourne via Regional NSW, Victoria and Queensland, making it easier for businesses, farms, mines, cities and ports in Regional NSW to connect to domestic and international markets. This will also create opportunities for private sector investments, such as fleet upgrades, new regional terminals and integrated freight precincts. The route will include 1047km of tracks in NSW, with Parkes operating as a major hub, and reduce costs for intercapital freight by A$10 per tonne.

Parkes in the Central West and Orana region is the first official Special Activation Precinct, taking advantage of location, business development opportunities and employment growth offered by the east-west rail line and the A$9.3 billion Inland Rail project, placing Parkes at the crossroads of Australia.

**Major Road and Rail Networks in Regional NSW**
The NSW and Australian governments are investing in a comprehensive network of infrastructure across all transport modes in Regional NSW.

This includes a A$543 million commitment to Fixing Country Roads and a A$400 million investment in Fixing Country Rail to boost freight capacity and efficiency, A$2.8 billion to design, build and maintain the new Regional Rail Fleet and create sustainable employment opportunities, and a A$1.6 billion investment in regional highways.

For more details, visit the assistance page.
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