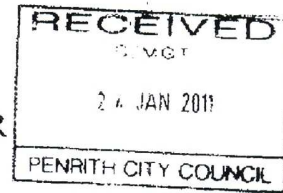


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Office of the Hon. Tony Abbott MHR
Leader of the Opposition



Mr Kevin Cramer
Mayor of Penrith City
60 High Street
Penrith NSW 2750

21 JAN 2011

Dear Mr Cramer

Thank you for your recent letter to the Leader of the Opposition regarding the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal. Mr Abbott has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The transport infrastructure challenge confronting Australia is enormous. The Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics forecasts that by 2020 the total freight task, including shipping, will almost double. Domestic non bulk road freight will double and the passenger task will grow by 40 per cent. Urban road tonnages are likely to double and, this is the most troubling point, traffic in the major capitals like Sydney will grow by more than 45 per cent.

The Moorebank Intermodal Terminal has been subject to numerous planning and economic studies. It is the Coalition's preferred site for Sydney's intermodal freight terminal.

The Coalition recognises the need to invest in our nation's transport infrastructure. It is vital that the right infrastructure is in place to promote the efficient handling of Sydney's freight and interstate freight so that goods are provided to consumers at the lowest possible cost. The Coalition firmly believes that the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal will be cost effective, reflect community needs, and be environmentally sustainable.

If there are any other issues that you would like to raise, or if I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6277 4022.

Once again, thank you for your letter.

Yours sincerely

MARK ROBERTS
Adviser - Infrastructure and Local Government

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