



## PRIME MINISTER

Joint statement by the Prime Minister, the  
Hon P J Keating, and the Minister for Land  
Transport, the Hon Bob Brown MP.

### PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES START TO \$181 MILLION OF *ONE NATION* NATIONAL RAIL NETWORK PROJECTS

The reality of 'One Nation: one national rail freight system' came a step closer today.

Prime Minister Paul Keating and Federal Land Transport Minister, Bob Brown, announced Federal Government funding of \$181 million as an initial instalment in a program of mainline rail improvements around the country as part of the *One Nation* jobs creation and economic package.

The release of *One Nation rail funding* coincided with today's official opening by Mr Keating of the National Rail Corporation headquarters at Parramatta. The Corporation has adopted the business name 'National Rail'.

Mr Keating and Mr Brown said formation of National Rail with participating states as shareholders, and the massive reinvestment planned for the national railway network was a response to Australia's need to re-equip and restructure its institutions to meet the future economic and social needs of the Australian community.

'A responsible acceleration of infrastructure investment can directly boost employment in the short term, while improving the economy's long-term growth potential', they said.

The projects announced today are the first stage of the \$454 million national rail network investment program contained in the Federal Government's *One Nation* economic statement, which aims to generate more than 6000 rail reconstruction jobs directly in the next two years. A further 6000 jobs will be created indirectly.

A total of 18 projects and groups of projects has been approved. A list of these is attached. Detailed planning is continuing on other projects, which are likely to be approved during the coming months.

In addition, the NSW Government has agreed to guarantee AN access to the Broken Hill-Parkes line until September 1997 to allow the Indian Pacific continued use of that route after standardisation of the Melbourne-Adelaide line.

ADELAIDE

9 August 1992

'These projects, together with establishment of National Rail to take control of all interstate rail freight operations, will help remove the physical and parochial barriers that have long inhibited the efficiency and competitiveness of the national rail network', Mr Keating and Mr Brown said.

'Federal Government approval for the initial projects has been subject to a commitment by the ACTU, rail unions and the Corporation to a greenfields enterprise award under which NRC employees would work.

The enterprise award will provide the basis for a new, more productive work environment where all company employees can focus on quality customer service. National Rail's first corporate plan, approved recently by the company shareholders, targets unit cost reductions of 45 per cent.

'It also targets a market share increase of 10 per cent during the next five years', they said.

Mr Keating and Mr Brown said the *One Nation* rail program would, for the first time in Australia's history, provide a uniform gauge rail track linking all mainland state capitals and Alice Springs.

Projects on the Sydney-Brisbane and Sydney-Melbourne corridors comprise the design and replacement of bridges, track upgrading and new sleepers. Melbourne-Adelaide gauge standardisation will involve design work for the section between Melbourne and the South Australian border, conversion of broad gauge track from Ararat to the border and construction from the border to Adelaide.

Connections to ports include a standard gauge connection to the Port of Brisbane at Fisherman Islands, upgrading of the South Dynon ship-rail container terminal and a direct road link to the Port of Melbourne, and design of the Outer Harbour terminal in Adelaide.

Overall, crossing loops, track upgrading and gauge standardisation over rail corridors from Brisbane to Perth will require the purchase of significant quantities of rail and concrete sleepers from local manufacturers. Initial contracts for the supply of some 3000 tonnes of heavy 60 kg rail and one million concrete sleepers are being let.

**Sydney**  
**6 August 1992**

Media contact --            Canberra: Richard Desmond (06) 274 7306  
                                     NRC:       Fred Affleck        (02) 685 2555

**ATTACHMENTS (3)**

ATTACHMENT 1

**APPROVED ONE NATION RAIL SPENDING**

The initial national rail projects approved by Prime Minister Paul Keating today are:

- track upgrading along the Sydney-Melbourne rail corridor, including replacement of sub-standard bridges;
- Sydney rail container terminal improved access -- Glenlee/Enfield design;
- Port of Melbourne improved access to rail terminal and expansion of the South Dynon container terminal;
- Melbourne-Adelaide mainline standard gauge conversion;
- Port Adelaide Outer Harbour rail access improvements;
- track upgrading along the Sydney-Brisbane rail corridor, including replacement of sub-standard bridges;
- partial contribution towards a Brisbane port standard gauge link (Acacia Ridge to Fisherman Islands), subject to the findings of an environmental impact study;
- the manufacture of one million concrete sleepers and 3000 tonnes of rail for track upgrading.

*(\*SEE MORE DETAILED LIST AT ATTACHMENT 2)*

ATTACHMENT 2

**ONE NATION**

**RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE - STAGE ONE APPROVED PROJECTS**

<b>PROJECT NAME AND LOCATION</b>	<b>APPROVED PROJECT COST (millions)</b>
<b>PORT OF BRISBANE</b>	
Standard gauge link to Fisherman Islands (Subject to environmental assessment)	30.000
<b>SYDNEY-BRISBANE CORRIDOR</b>	
Replacement of six timber bridges Tamban Macksville (3 bridges) Karagi Nana Glen	3.270
Design of six replacement bridges Wauchope Pembroke Tamban Bonville Coramba Grafton	0.477
Track and sleepers (7.4 km) Macksville Leeville Casino Cougai	5.293
<b>SYDNEY-MELBOURNE CORRIDOR</b>	
Track and sleepers Exeter to Medway prelim. design (curve realignment) Track upgrading, Sydney-Victoria border Design of track upgrading, Albury-Melbourne	0.050 15.000 1.000
Design and replacement of bridges Wagga Bridge Albury Viaduct Menangle Viaduct Joppa Junction	.....1.490

<b>PROJECT NAME AND LOCATION</b>	<b>APPROVED PROJECT COST (millions)</b>
<b>GLENLEE-ENFIELD FREIGHT LINE</b>	
Design work	2.200
<b>MELBOURNE-ADELAIDE GAUGE STANDARDISATION</b>	
Detailed project design	3.000
Ararat-South Australian border track conversion	9.060
SA border to Adelaide track conversion	45.000
<b>MELBOURNE RAIL TERMINAL</b>	
Upgrade South Dynon Terminal	5.000
Access Road, Dynon to Swanson/Appleton Dock	5.000
<b>OUTER HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS -- PORT ADELAIDE</b>	
Design of Outer Harbour rail terminal	0.400
<b>ADELAIDE-KALGOORLIE CORRIDOR</b>	
Increase clearances, Adelaide-Kalgoorlie	2.000
<b>PURCHASE OF MATERIALS -- ALL CORRIDORS</b>	
Purchase 3000 tonnes of 60kg rail	2.700
Manufacture of one million concrete sleepers	50.000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$180.940</b>

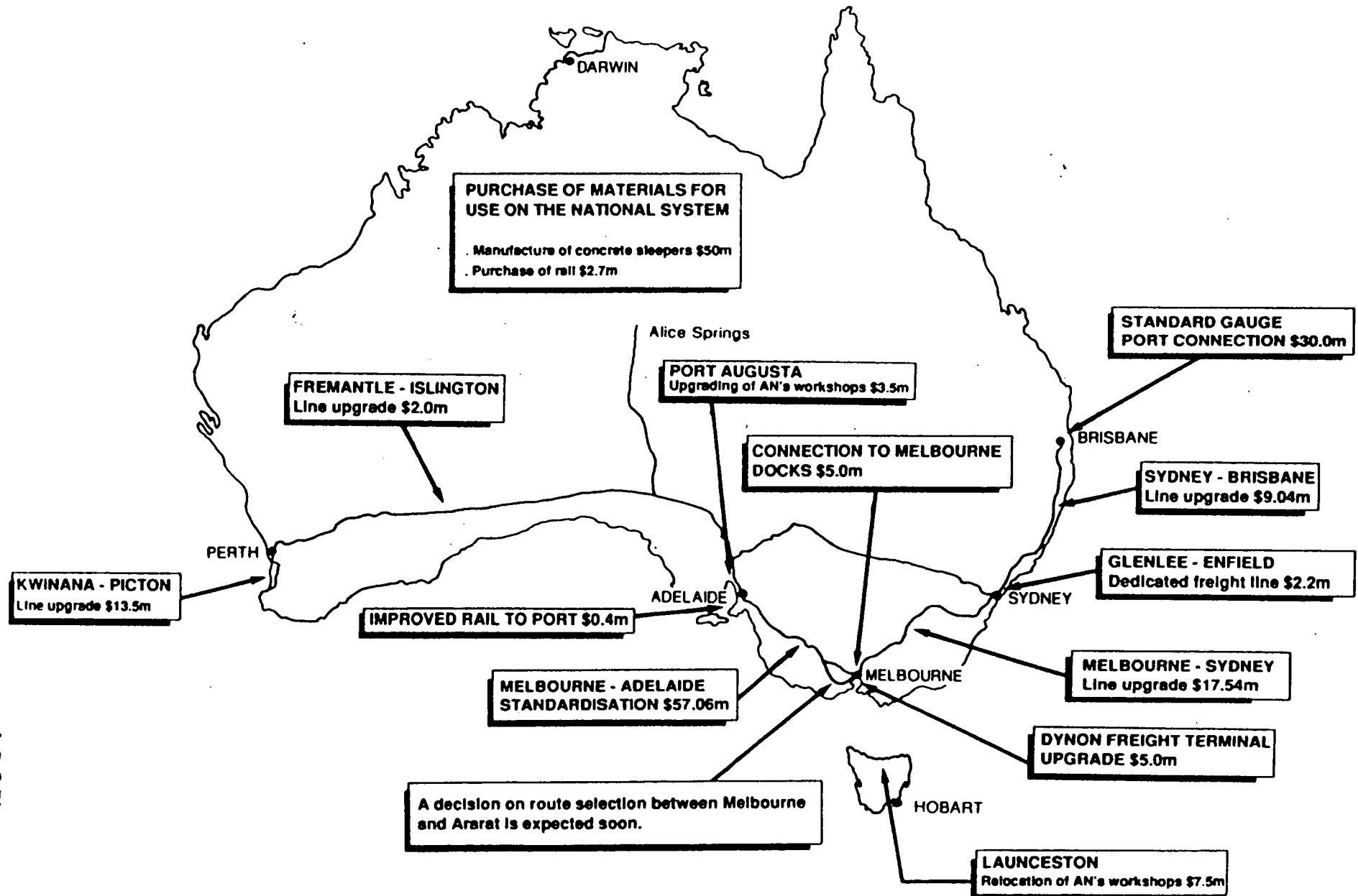
ATTACHMENT 3

**ONE NATION RAIL SPENDING -- TOTAL PROGRAM**

-	Port of Brisbane standard gauge link (Acacia Ridge/Fisherman Islands)		\$30m
-	Sydney-Brisbane corridor track and bridge upgrading	...	\$82m
-	Sydney-Melbourne corridor track and bridge upgrading	...	\$110m
-	Construction of freight line between Glenlee and Enfield	... ..	\$71m
-	Melbourne-Adelaide line conversion to standard gauge	... ..	\$115m
-	Melbourne Rail Terminal		
	: upgrade South Dynon freight container terminal	...	\$20m
	: access road, Dynon to Swanston/Appleton Docks	...	\$5m
-	Port Adelaide Outer Harbour rail terminal	... ..	\$8m
-	Adelaide-Perth corridor	... ..	\$13m

**TOTAL: \$454m**

# ONE NATION EARLY START PROJECTS





# ONE NATION MAINLINE RAIL PROJECTS

1088

