

For Immediate Release

10 August 2020

WESTPORT ANNOUNCEMENT

“Kwinana Industries Council is in strong support of the Government’s plans to build a new port along the industrial coast in Kwinana.” Chris Oughton, Director of Kwinana Industries Council.

All information in this media release can be cited as quotes from Chris Oughton, Director of Kwinana Industries Council (KIC). KIC is an industry association representing the collegiate views of its members, being the major industries located in the Kwinana Industrial Area, the heavy industrial core of the Western Trade Coast, and the place where the new port will be located.

Industry welcomes the Premier’s announcement today for a whole range of reasons, but mainly for what the decision to build the new port means for industry’s ability to be able to compete more effectively on the international stage.

Government:

Industry congratulates the Premier for his foresight and his election commitment to present to Western Australians this much anticipated report into the State’s long-term future freight task.

Industry has been consulted throughout the process, and our views heard. The recommended location and configuration of the new port is entirely logical and practical in every respect.

The announcement today is the trigger that will ultimately lead to much-increased industrial business activity, international interest, and very significant employment outcomes for Western Australians.

With this announcement that the new port is to be built in the State’s Premier Industrial Area, it is important to move through the approvals phase quickly so that the commitment is implemented. The new port in Kwinana is a project that has been ‘on-again, off-again’ for decades, creating long-term uncertainty for industry. Uncertainty is a drag on industry investment, so we send the Premier our strongest encouragement to progress the project to implementation in the quickest time, so that latent business investment can be unlocked.

Westport:

Under the stewardship of Ms Nicole Lockwood, the Westport process has been thorough, comprehensive, methodical, and deeply consultative.

It is sensational that we now have a strategic plan for Perth's metropolitan port infrastructure and logistical needs, and one which will serve the needs of the State and its industry for many decades.

What a new industrial port means for the Western Trade Coast, its industries, and its surrounding communities.

Strategic Planning

- The Kwinana Industrial Area has never had a comprehensive government-departmental strategic development plan in the nearly 60 years of its existence. This lack of holistic planning has led to the development of numerous constraints on industry. These include transport constraints (road, rail, jetty), future industrial land availability, buffer protection, pipeline governance, regulatory red tape, and lots more. The investment in a new industrial port is the trigger to resolve these constraints.
 - **“The new port is like a carefully-placed domino in a room filled with rows of dominoes, all standing tall on their short edge, and when that pivotal domino is knocked over, it triggers a chain reaction, leading to the fall of all the others. The port decision is that lead domino, leading ultimately to the resolution of the key constraints on industry.”**

Major Projects

- Between now and when the new port is built, there are some major projects that can be initiated, such as the Anketell Road project - building the major freight route from Tonkin Highway right across to the coast to the new port. There are heavy freight rail projects that can also be started. These projects would lock in the new port location.
 - **“Let's get on with building the 'New Perth Freight Link' - Anketell Road, which runs from Tonkin Highway to the industrial area's coast.”**

Governance

- Is it time now to look at the governance structure for the Western Trade Coast, a structure that would relieve it of complexity and which would facilitate industrial expansion.

New Business Opportunities

- The new port in Kwinana will put Perth's Premier Industrial Area, the Western Trade Coast, on the international stage, attracting interest from around the world from new companies wanting to establish their businesses here.
 - **“The Western Trade Coast is only about one third developed, and this is good because there is going to be very significant interest from international companies wanting to build their businesses near a new, internationally competitive port.”**

International competitiveness

- Economic and employment outcomes can be expected. The announcement will create international interest and industrial business expansion. Many 'Lithium Valley' and renewable industries are already considering establishing here.
 - **“The new industries that will come to the Western Trade Coast will strengthen the economy through the broadening of its industrial base, and they will create many thousands of construction and permanent operational jobs in doing so.”**

Photo attached separately

Caption to read: Port location between Alcoa Jetty in the foreground and Kwinana Bulk Terminal in the distance.

Courtesy: Kwinana Industries Council



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