

STRATEGIC GRAIN NETWORK REVIEW — TIER 3 LINES

Petition

HON MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM (Agricultural) [2.02 pm]: I have a petition containing 50 signatures couched in the following terms —

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned reject the findings of the Strategic Grain Network Review Committee Finding 12 that Tier 3 rail lines are not suitable candidates for re-investment and that “during 2010 rail services will cease to operate on them regardless of actions taken by governments”.

We ask that the Legislative Council investigate ways to ensure a competitive rail system into the future including above and below rail costs and transparency; the impact that the non-use of these lines would have on communities; the environmental repercussions; State and Local Government road maintenance and upgrading costs, as well as road safety issues, particularly given the consequent huge increase in truck movements.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request the Legislative Council to:

- a) Upgrade table 25 on page 81 of the SGNRC Report to include roads previously missed out and the true cost of upgrading and maintaining roads to a minimum 7.5 metre seal for a period of 15 years, through dialogue with the affected shires.
- b) Reconsider Finding 12 of the SGNRC Report.
- c) Ensure any increases to Local Government road maintenance and capital costs associated with non-use and/or decreased use of any sections of Tier 3 lines to be fully funded by State and Federal Government.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper 2174.]