

Minister for Transport; Planning

Our ref: 72-21645

Your ref: Petition No. 125

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC Chair Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Swinbourn

PETITION NO. 125 - RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN BUNBURY AND GREENBUSHES

Thank you for your correspondence dated 19 September 2019 regarding Petition No. 125 - Railway line between Bunbury and Greenbushes.

The petition relates to a disused railway line that connects Greenbushes to Picton and, by extension, Bunbury Port. This line forms part of the State Government owned freight rail infrastructure which was leased to Westnet Rail for a period of 49 years in December 2000.

Arc Infrastructure as the lessee is responsible for providing and managing access to their rail network and is required to adopt the requirements of the WA Rail Access Regime when requested for rail access are received from potential operators.

The State Government continues to work with Arc Infrastructure and Talison Lithium to establish the feasibility of reopening the rail line for the transport of spodumene ore from Greenbushes by rail. This work is ongoing and a final decision is likely to be made next year.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely

HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

16 OCT 2019