28 March 2025

Mr Peter Anderson Road Transport Advisory Group

**Dear Peter** 

Request for advice from the Road Transport Advisory Group subcommittee established for the purpose of consultation about an application for a road transport contractual chain order (MS2024/4)

I write to you in your capacity as Chair of the subcommittee established by the Road Transport Advisory Group (RTAG) to consult with persons and organisations who may be affected by the orders sought in an application by the Transport Workers' Union of Australia (TWU) for a road transport contractual chain order (case MS2024/4).

As you are aware, in its Response to Directions issued by the President of the Fair Work Commission (Commission) of 11 December 2024, the RTAG advised the President that it proposes a period of six months be allowed for consultation at the subcommittee level. During this time, the RTAG will monitor the progress of consultation, and will conduct a review of the effectiveness of consultation and the likelihood of consensus being reached in relation to applications and issues, at the end of the initial six -month period.

In a <u>Statement [2025] FWC 216</u> issued on 22 January 2025, the President reviewed submissions made about the RTAG response of 11 December 2024 and confirmed the Commission's acceptance and adoption of the RTAG advice as to priorities and the consultation process in relation to the applications. The President directed the RTAG to commence a consultation process in relation to various applications, including the application in MS2024/4. He further directed the RTAG to provide written advice as to the prioritisation of the matters once the RTAG has formed a final view.

I am aware that the subcommittee considering the application for a road transport contractual chain order in MS2024/4 first met on 7 February 2025 and that the subcommittee adopted the <u>Guiding Principles for Subcommittees at Attachment A to the RTAG Terms of Reference</u> at that meeting. To date, the subcommittee has met three times to consult about the TWU application prior to formulating its advice to the RTAG about the application.

The Guiding Principles for Subcommittees provide that their purpose is to assist the RTAG in consulting broadly and providing advice to the President of the Commission about applications for orders covering regulated workers or businesses in, or relating to, the road transport industry, other

Central Plaza Two 66 Eagle Street Brisbane, QLD 4000 GPO Box 5713 BRISBANE QLD 4001 Telephone: +61 7 3028 7827 Email: chambers.asbury.vp@fwc.gov.au matters in or related to the road transport industry, and about priorities of the work of the Commission concerning such applications.

Consistent with this role, I request that the subcommittee provide the RTAG with advice about the following in relation to the application in MS2024/4:

- · matters that are agreed
- · matters that may be agreed
- matters that cannot be agreed and need to be determined
- the views of the subcommittee on the prioritisation of this application in relation to other applications referred by the President to RTAG, and
- any other matters concerning the application that the subcommittee considers relevant.

The RTAG Secretariat will be available to assist in preparing the advice.

Consistent with the RTAG's Response to the President, I request that the subcommittee provide its advice to the RTAG by no later than **7** August 2025 (being six months from the date of its first meeting). Of course, if you consider the subcommittee can satisfactorily conclude consultation prior to that date, I would welcome its earlier advice.

I am aware that the next meeting of the subcommittee is on 3 April 2025 and I would appreciate you tabling this request. I have provided the request in advance of the date by which the advice is sought, to assist the subcommittee with its deliberations. I look forward to receiving the subcommittee's advice in due course.

Please contact me should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

**Ingrid Asbury** 

**Vice President** 

**Fair Work Commission** 

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**Chair, Road Transport Advisory Group**