ARTC INLAND

24 February 2023

David Neeves General Manager Gilgandra Shire Council PO Box 23 GILGANDRA NSW 2827

Dear David,

Narromine to Narrabri (N2N) project has received state approval

The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) Inland Rail has received approval from the NSW Minister for Planning to progress the Narromine to Narrabri Project, subject to conditions and Federal Government approval.

The NSW Minister for Planning has approved the Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) application for N2N under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, subject to the recommended conditions.

To view a copy of the Planning Secretary's Assessment Report and Project's Conditions of Approval, please visit https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/projects/inland-rail-narromine-narrabri.

In 2021, ARTC announced ACCIONA and CPB Contractors Joint Venture (ACACPB JV) as the preferred construction contractor for the civil works component of the Project.

Over the coming months, ARTC will continue to work with the preferred civil works construction contractor, ACACPB JV, to develop the Project's detailed design and secondary approvals documentation (environmental and social management plans, permits and licenses) and conduct low-impact works such as service utility relocations and site investigations, including geotechnical surveys to better understand ground conditions.

What's next?

The Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water (DCCEEW) has determined the Narromine to Narrabri project to be a controlled action under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999.* Now that State approval has been received, the Project will be determined by the DCCEWW under an accredited assessment process. A decision is expected in the next month.

To learn more about upcoming project activities, visit <u>https://inlandrail.artc.com.au/where-we-go/projects/narromine-to-narrabri/status/</u>.

Keeping you informed about the Project's design development, potential impacts, and proposed mitigation is important to us. We remain committed to working with the community to ensure the best outcome for the region.

Inland Rail

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If you'd like to arrange a formal briefing, please call one of our Stakeholder Engagement Advisors on 1800 732 761 or email <u>inlandrailnsw@artc.com.au</u>. You can also speak with us face to face, pop by our community shopfront in Narrabri, which is open every weekday or see us at the monthly markets in Narrabri and Gilgandra.

Yours sincerely

Richard Hamilton Acting Delivery Director Southern