From: Mary Weaver
Sent: Wednesday, 21 June 2017 10:41 AM
To: Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee <IPNRC@parliament.qld.gov.au>
Cc:
Subject: Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee -- Questions taken at the departmental briefing on the Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

Attached are the responses to questions taken at the departmental briefing on the Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017.

Please note, for questions 1 and 3, there are also attachments included.

In addition, we would like to provide some additional information to the Committee regarding the numbers of proof of age cards issued by the Department. This was raised during the Committee hearing.

Number of Proof of Age Cards
The Committee enquired as to the number of Adult Proof of Age Cards that have been issued.

Department of Transport and Main Roads records show that in total there have been over 710,000 18+ Cards and Adult Proof of Age Cards issued in Queensland. The Department started issuing Adult Proof of Age Cards in 2010.

As at 15 June 2017 there are 207,942 active Adult Proof of Age Cards.

Thank you for opportunity to provide this additional information. If the Committee requires any further information, please let me know.

Regards

A/CLLO and Director, Executive Services
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Question on Notice

Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
14 June 2017

Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

Asked on 14 June 2017

The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee asked the Department of Transport and Main Roads —

QUESTION:

In regard to the definition of *infectious substances,* please provide a copy of UN division 6.2 as referred to in clause 58 of the Bill.

ANSWER:

Clauses 58 and 79 of the Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 make a minor amendment to legislation governing the transportation of infectious substances. The amendment removes any technical argument that an exemption available for the transport of small quantities of dangerous goods could also be available for the transport of infectious substances. The amendment is not expected to have any impact on operators within the industry as they are already complying with the desired requirements.

Infectious substances are referred to in clauses 58 and 79 of the Bill. They are identified by reference to UN division 6.2 which is the United Nations classification for infectious substances. Division 6.2 from the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods—Model Regulations* (the UN Model Regulations) produced by the United Nations Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods is attached.

The definition of *infectious substances* in the attachment provides that *infectious substances a*re *substances which are known or are reasonably expected to contain pathogens. Pathogens are defined as micro-organisms (including bacteria, viruses, rickettsiae, parasites, fungi) and other agents such as prions, which can cause disease in humans or animals.*

This definition and the classification of infectious substances in the attachment are replicated in the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail (Section 2.6.3 through to 2.6.3.6.2). This code must be complied with by all those involved in the transportation of dangerous goods by road or rail in Australia.

~~(a) Classify the formulation according to the most hazardous constituent of the mixture as if that constituent were present in the same concentration as the total concentration of all active constituents; or~~

~~(b) Apply the formula: $\frac{C_A}{T_A} + \frac{C_B}{T_B} + \ldots + \frac{C_Z}{T_Z} = \frac{100}{T_M}$~~

~~where: C = the % concentration of constituent A, B ... Z in the mixture;~~
~~T = the oral LD_{50} values of constituent A, B ... Z;~~
~~T_M = the oral LD_{50} value of the mixture.~~

~~*NOTE: This formula can also be used for dermal toxicities provided that this information is available on the same species for all constituents. The use of this formula does not take into account any potentiation or protective phenomena.*~~

~~*2.6.2.4 Classification of pesticides*~~

~~2.6.2.4.1 All active pesticide substances and their preparations for which the LC_{50} and/or LD_{50} values are known and which are classified in Division 6.1 shall be classified under appropriate packing groups in accordance with the criteria given in 2.6.2.2. Substances and preparations which are characterized by subsidiary risks shall be classified according to the precedence of hazard table in Chapter 2.0 with the assignment of appropriate packing groups.~~

~~2.6.2.4.2 If the oral or dermal LD_{50} value for a pesticide preparation is not known, but the LD_{50} value of its active substance(s) is known, the LD_{50} value for the preparation may be obtained by applying the procedures in 2.6.2.3.~~

~~*NOTE: LD_{50} toxicity data for a number of common pesticides may be obtained from the most current edition of the document "The WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard and Guidelines to Classification" available from the International Programme on Chemical Safety, World Health Organisation (WHO), 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. While that document may be used as a source of LD_{50} data for pesticides, its classification system shall not be used for purposes of transport classification of, or assignment of packing groups to, pesticides, which shall be in accordance with these regulations.*~~

~~2.6.2.4.3 The proper shipping name used in the transport of the pesticide shall be selected on the basis of the active ingredient, of the physical state of the pesticide and any subsidiary risks it may exhibit.~~

~~*2.6.2.5 Substances not accepted for transport*~~

~~Chemically unstable substances of Division 6.1 shall not be accepted for transport unless the necessary precautions have been taken to prevent the possibility of a dangerous decomposition or polymerization under normal conditions of transport. For the precautions necessary to prevent polymerization, see special provision 386 of Chapter 3.3. To this end particular care shall be taken to ensure that receptacles and tanks do not contain any substances liable to promote these reactions.~~

2.6.3 Division 6.2 - Infectious substances

2.6.3.1 *Definitions*

For the purposes of these Regulations:

2.6.3.1.1 *Infectious substances* are substances which are known or are reasonably expected to contain pathogens. Pathogens are defined as microorganisms (including bacteria, viruses, rickettsiae, parasites, fungi) and other agents such as prions, which can cause disease in humans or animals.

2.6.3.1.2 *Biological products* are those products derived from living organisms which are manufactured and distributed in accordance with the requirements of appropriate national authorities, which may have special licensing requirements, and are used either for prevention, treatment, or diagnosis of disease in humans or animals, or for development, experimental or investigational purposes related thereto. They include, but are not limited to, finished or unfinished products such as vaccines.

2.6.3.1.3 *Cultures* are the result of a process by which pathogens are intentionally propagated. This definition does not include human or animal patient specimens as defined in 2.6.3.1.4.

2.6.3.1.4 *Patient specimens* are human or animal materials, collected directly from humans or animals, including, but not limited to, excreta, secreta, blood and its components, tissue and tissue fluid swabs, and body parts being transported for purposes such as research, diagnosis, investigational activities, disease treatment and prevention.

2.6.3.1.5 *Deleted.*

2.6.3.1.6 *Medical or clinical wastes* are wastes derived from the medical treatment of animals or humans or from bio-research.

2.6.3.2 *Classification of infectious substances*

2.6.3.2.1 Infectious substances shall be classified in Division 6.2 and assigned to UN 2814, UN 2900, UN 3291 or UN 3373, as appropriate.

2.6.3.2.2 Infectious substances are divided into the following categories:

2.6.3.2.2.1 Category A: An infectious substance which is transported in a form that, when exposure to it occurs, is capable of causing permanent disability, life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals. Indicative examples of substances that meet these criteria are given in the table in this paragraph.

NOTE: *An exposure occurs when an infectious substance is released outside of the protective packaging, resulting in physical contact with humans or animals.*

(a) Infectious substances meeting these criteria which cause disease in humans or both in humans and animals shall be assigned to UN 2814. Infectious substances which cause disease only in animals shall be assigned to UN 2900.

(b) Assignment to UN 2814 or UN 2900 shall be based on the known medical history and symptoms of the source human or animal, endemic local conditions, or professional judgement concerning individual circumstances of the source human or animal.

NOTE 1: *The proper shipping name for UN 2814 is INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE, AFFECTING HUMANS. The proper shipping name for UN 2900 is INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE, AFFECTING ANIMALS only.*

NOTE 2: *The following table is not exhaustive. Infectious substances, including new or emerging pathogens, which do not appear in the table but which meet the same criteria shall be assigned to Category A. In addition, if there is doubt as to whether or not a substance meets the criteria it shall be included in Category A.*

NOTE 3: *In the following table, the microorganisms written in italics are bacteria, mycoplasmas, rickettsia or fungi.*

INDICATIVE EXAMPLES OF INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES INCLUDED IN CATEGORY A IN ANY FORM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED (2.6.3.2.2.1 (a))	
UN Number and Proper Shipping Name	**Microorganism**
UN 2814 Infectious substances affecting humans	*Bacillus anthracis (cultures only)* *Brucella abortus (cultures only)* *Brucella melitensis (cultures only)* *Brucella suis (cultures only)* *Burkholderia mallei - Pseudomonas mallei* - Glanders *(cultures only)* *Burkholderia pseudomallei – Pseudomonas pseudomallei (cultures only)* *Chlamydia psittaci* - avian strains (cultures only) *Clostridium botulinum (cultures only)* *Coccidioides immitis (cultures only)* *Coxiella burnetii (cultures only)* Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus Dengue virus (cultures only) Eastern equine encephalitis virus (cultures only) *Escherichia coli*, verotoxigenic (cultures only) Ebola virus Flexal virus *Francisella tularensis (cultures only)* Guanarito virus Hantaan virus Hantaviruses causing haemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome Hendra virus Hepatitis B virus (cultures only) Herpes B virus (cultures only) Human immunodeficiency virus (cultures only) Highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (cultures only) Japanese Encephalitis virus (cultures only) Junin virus Kyasanur Forest disease virus Lassa virus Machupo virus Marburg virus Monkeypox virus *Mycobacterium tuberculosis (cultures only)* Nipah virus Omsk haemorrhagic fever virus Poliovirus (cultures only) Rabies virus (cultures only) *Rickettsia prowazekii (cultures only)* *Rickettsia rickettsii* (cultures only) Rift Valley fever virus (cultures only) Russian spring-summer encephalitis virus (cultures only) Sabia virus *Shigella dysenteriae type 1 (cultures only)* Tick-borne encephalitis virus (cultures only) Variola virus Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (cultures only) West Nile virus (cultures only) Yellow fever virus (cultures only) *Yersinia pestis* (cultures only)

INDICATIVE EXAMPLES OF INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES INCLUDED IN CATEGORY A IN ANY FORM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED (2.6.3.2.2.1 (a))	
UN Number and Proper Shipping Name	**Microorganism**
UN 2900 Infectious substances affecting animals only	African swine fever virus (cultures only) Avian paramyxovirus Type 1 - Velogenic Newcastle disease virus (cultures only) Classical swine fever virus (cultures only) Foot and mouth disease virus (cultures only) Lumpy skin disease virus (cultures only) *Mycoplasma mycoides* - Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (cultures only) Peste des petits ruminants virus (cultures only) Rinderpest virus (cultures only) Sheep-pox virus (cultures only) Goatpox virus (cultures only) Swine vesicular disease virus (cultures only) Vesicular stomatitis virus (cultures only)

2.6.3.2.2.2 Category B: An infectious substance which does not meet the criteria for inclusion in Category A. Infectious substances in Category B shall be assigned to UN 3373.

NOTE: *The proper shipping name of UN 3373 is "BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE, CATEGORY B".*

2.6.3.2.3 *Exemptions*

2.6.3.2.3.1 Substances which do not contain infectious substances or substances which are unlikely to cause disease in humans or animals are not subject to these Regulations unless they meet the criteria for inclusion in another class.

2.6.3.2.3.2 Substances containing microorganisms which are non-pathogenic to humans or animals are not subject to these Regulations unless they meet the criteria for inclusion in another class.

2.6.3.2.3.3 Substances in a form that any present pathogens have been neutralized or inactivated such that they no longer pose a health risk are not subject to these Regulations unless they meet the criteria for inclusion in another class.

NOTE: *Medical equipment which has been drained of free liquid is deemed to meet the requirements of this paragraph and is not subject to these Regulations.*

2.6.3.2.3.4 Environmental samples (including food and water samples) which are not considered to pose a significant risk of infection are not subject to these Regulations unless they meet the criteria for inclusion in another class.

2.6.3.2.3.5 Dried blood spots, collected by applying a drop of blood onto absorbent material, are not subject to these Regulations.

2.6.3.2.3.6 Faecal occult blood screening samples are not subject to these Regulations.

2.6.3.2.3.7 Blood or blood components which have been collected for the purposes of transfusion or for the preparation of blood products to be used for transfusion or transplantation and any tissues or organs intended for use in transplantation as well as samples drawn in connection with such purposes are not subject to these Regulations.

2.6.3.2.3.8 Human or animal specimens for which there is minimal likelihood that pathogens are present are not subject to these Regulations if the specimen is transported in a packaging which will prevent any leakage and

which is marked with the words "Exempt human specimen" or "Exempt animal specimen", as appropriate. The packaging should meet the following conditions:

(a) The packaging should consist of three components:

(i) a leak-proof primary receptacle(s);

(ii) a leak-proof secondary packaging; and

(iii) an outer packaging of adequate strength for its capacity, mass and intended use, and with at least one surface having minimum dimensions of 100 mm × 100 mm;

(b) For liquids, absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents should be placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging so that, during transport, any release or leak of a liquid substance will not reach the outer packaging and will not compromise the integrity of the cushioning material;

(c) When multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they should be either individually wrapped or separated to prevent contact between them.

NOTE 1: *An element of professional judgment is required to determine if a substance is exempt under this paragraph. That judgment should be based on the known medical history, symptoms and individual circumstances of the source, human or animal, and endemic local conditions. Examples of specimens which may be transported under this paragraph include the blood or urine tests to monitor cholesterol levels, blood glucose levels, hormone levels, or prostate specific antibodies (PSA); those required to monitor organ function such as heart, liver or kidney function for humans or animals with non-infectious diseases, or for therapeutic drug monitoring; those conducted for insurance or employment purposes and are intended to determine the presence of drugs or alcohol; pregnancy test; biopsies to detect cancer; and antibody detection in humans or animals in the absence of any concern for infection (e.g. evaluation of vaccine induced immunity, diagnosis of autoimmune disease, etc.).*

NOTE 2: *For air transport, packagings for specimens exempted under this paragraph shall meet the conditions in (a) to (c).*

2.6.3.2.3.9 Except for:

(a) Medical waste (UN 3291);

(b) Medical devices or equipment contaminated with or containing infectious substances in Category A (UN 2814 or UN 2900); and

(c) Medical devices or equipment contaminated with or containing other dangerous goods that meet the definition of another hazard class,

medical devices or equipment potentially contaminated with or containing infectious substances which are being transported for disinfection, cleaning, sterilization, repair, or equipment evaluation are not subject to the provisions of these Regulations if packed in packagings designed and constructed in such a way that, under normal conditions of transport, they cannot break, be punctured or leak their contents. Packagings shall be designed to meet the construction requirements listed in 6.1.4 or 6.6.5.

These packagings shall meet the general packing requirements of 4.1.1.1 and 4.1.1.2 and be capable of retaining the medical devices and equipment when dropped from a height of 1.2 m. For air transport, additional requirements may apply.

The packagings shall be marked "USED MEDICAL DEVICE" or "USED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT". When using overpacks, these shall be marked in the same way, except when the inscription remains visible.

2.6.3.3 ***Biological products***

2.6.3.3.1 For the purposes of these Regulations, biological products are divided into the following groups:

(a) those which are manufactured and packaged in accordance with the requirements of appropriate national authorities and transported for the purposes of final packaging or distribution, and use for personal health care by medical professionals or individuals. Substances in this group are not subject to these Regulations;

(b) those which do not fall under paragraph (a) and are known or reasonably believed to contain infectious substances and which meet the criteria for inclusion in Category A or Category B. Substances in this group shall be assigned to UN 2814, UN 2900 or UN 3373, as appropriate.

NOTE: *Some licensed biological products may present a biohazard only in certain parts of the world. In that case, competent authorities may require these biological products to be in compliance with local requirements for infectious substances or may impose other restrictions.*

2.6.3.4 ***Genetically modified microorganisms and organisms***

2.6.3.4.1 Genetically modified microorganisms not meeting the definition of infectious substance shall be classified according to Chapter 2.9.

2.6.3.5 ***Medical or clinical wastes***

2.6.3.5.1 Medical or clinical wastes containing Category A infectious substances shall be assigned to UN 2814 or UN 2900 as appropriate. Medical or clinical wastes containing infectious substances in Category B shall be assigned to UN 3291.

2.6.3.5.2 Medical or clinical wastes which are reasonably believed to have a low probability of containing infectious substances shall be assigned to UN 3291.

For the assignment, international, regional or national waste catalogues may be taken into account.

NOTE: *The proper shipping name for UN 3291 is "CLINICAL WASTE, UNSPECIFIED, N.O.S." or "(BIO) MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S" or "REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S.".*

2.6.3.5.3 Decontaminated medical or clinical wastes which previously contained infectious substances are not subject to these Regulations unless they meet the criteria for inclusion in another class.

2.6.3.6 ***Infected animals***

2.6.3.6.1 Unless an infectious substance cannot be consigned by any other means, live animals shall not be used to consign such a substance. A live animal which has been intentionally infected and is known or suspected to contain an infectious substance shall only be transported under terms and conditions approved by the competent authority.

2.6.3.6.2 Animal material affected by pathogens of Category A or which would be assigned to Category A in cultures only, shall be assigned to UN 2814 or UN 2900 as appropriate. Animal material affected by pathogens of Category B other than those which would be assigned to Category A if they were in cultures shall be assigned to UN No. 3373.

Question on Notice

Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
14 June 2017

Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

Asked on 14 June 2017

The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee asked the Department of Transport and Main Roads —

QUESTION:

Please provide details of any consultation undertaken on the Bill's amendments, including any consultation undertaken by the National Transport Commission on the transport of dangerous goods

ANSWER:

Photo Identification Cards (various clauses)

The amendments will allow a photo identification card to be issued for those aged 15 and over. It is an additional optional form of identification which is virtually an extension of the existing adult proof of age card and not a totally new product. Adult proof of age cards and 18+ cards will continue to be recognised as evidence of identity documents in the community. As there are no negative impacts expected as a result of these changes, and as uptake of the card is entirely voluntary, no public consultation has been undertaken up to this point.

Consultation has been undertaken with the Office of Regulatory Policy (ORP), the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation (OLGR) and the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) within the Department of Justice and Attorney-General. ORP advised that OLGR and OFT may partner with the Department of Transport and Main Roads in getting the information out to stakeholders, such as liquor licensees and the security provider industry.

OFT advised it has no issues with the changes because its operations will not be impacted.

OLGR advised that it supports the changes and that the lead-in time will allow for communication of the changes to industry. It intends to work with the Department of Transport and Main Roads on implementation.

The Queensland Police Service was also consulted and raised no concerns in relation to the proposed changes.

Further, consultation will take place with other government agencies, including the Department of Health, as part of the implementation phase. Prior to the commencement of the changes, information will be provided to industry groups, including the Queensland Hotels Association and Australian Retailers Association. Public engagement and notification will also be undertaken during the implementation phase to advise the general public of the changes.

Amendments to dangerous goods legislation in clauses 58 and 79.

Legislation governing the transportation of dangerous goods by road and rail in Queensland is based on nationally-developed model legislation for adoption by state jurisdictions.

The amendments in clauses 58 and 79 are based on a nationally-agreed amendment to the model legislation. Public consultation was conducted by the National Transport Commission (NTC) during the preparation of the equivalent amendment to the national model legislation. This was done through the publication on the NTC's website as part of a package of amendments to the national model legislation. This publication sought public submissions between 6 August 2013 and 2 September 2013.

The NTC document *Explanation of Transport of Dangerous Goods Laws Amendment Package No. 2 September 2013* (available at www.ntc.gov.au) did not record any public submissions being received in relation to the amendment that is being adopted in clauses 58 and 79. The amendment clarifies that infectious substances are not intended to be captured by the exemption relating to the carriage of small quantities of dangerous goods. As this is simply an amendment to clarify existing requirements and reflect operational practice, industry will not be impacted by the amendment. This is because the rules for the transportation of infectious substances are already well understood across industry and there is no evidence of non-compliance with those rules.

Given the consultation undertaken by the NTC, no Queensland-specific public consultation was undertaken.

Amendment to the *Transport Security (Counter-Terrorism) Act 2008* in clause 97

In addition, external consultation was not considered necessary for the proposed amendment to section 61 of the *Transport Security (Counter-Terrorism) Act 2008* (the Act) as the Department of Transport and Main Roads procured PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia (PwC) to conduct a review of the Act in 2013, and prepare a report to be tabled in Parliament. The purpose of the 2013 PwC review of the Act was to assess the implementation of the Act, and the effectiveness and efficiency with which it achieves its objectives, namely to reduce the risks arising out of terrorist acts against Security-Identified Surface Transport Operations (SISTOs).

As part of the regulatory review process, PwC conducted targeted consultation with relevant surface transport operators, industry bodies and representatives from federal and Queensland Government agencies.

Consultation was used to inform the assessment of the benefits and costs associated with the operation of the Act. The PwC report recommended that the Act be further reviewed in five years' time to ensure it continues to achieve its objectives in the most efficient way.

The remaining amendments in the Bill

No public consultation was undertaken for the remaining amendments as there are no adverse impacts on the public. This is because the remaining amendments are:

- clarifications of existing legislative provisions;
- administrative or technical in nature;
- consequential on other pieces of legislation; or
- removing redundant provisions.

Question on Notice

Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
14 June 2017

Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

Asked on 14 June 2017

The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee asked the Department of Transport and Main Roads —

QUESTION:

Please provide background information on the relationship between federal and state legislation in regard to the transportation of dangerous goods.

ANSWER:

Clauses 58 and 79 of the Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 make a minor amendment to legislation governing the transportation of infectious substances. The amendment removes any technical argument that an exemption available for the transport of small quantities of dangerous goods could also be available for the transport of infectious substances. The amendment is not expected to have any impact on operators within the industry as they are already complying with the desired requirements.

The transportation of dangerous goods goes across different modes of transport including road, rail, air and sea. It is only the transportation of dangerous goods by road and rail which is governed by state legislation. The other modes of transport are governed by federal legislation.

The United Nations Economic Council's Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods has developed the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (UN Model Regulations). The UN Model Regulations define the various classes, list the principal dangerous goods and specify the testing, packing, labelling, placarding and transport documentation requirements. Regulation of the transportation of dangerous goods in Australia by road, rail, air and sea draws upon the UN Model Regulations.

The amendments contained in clauses 58 and 79 of the Bill are based on amendments to nationally-developed model legislation for the transportation of dangerous goods by road and rail.

The National Transport Commission document, *Explanation of Transport of Dangerous Goods Laws Amendment Package No. 2 2013*, provides an outline of the amendments in that package. The 'Forward' to that document is attached.

As stated in the attachment, the nationally-developed model legislation on which Queensland dangerous goods legislation is based, is in turn 'heavily based' on the UN Model Regulations. As indicated above, these UN Model Regulations cover the transportation of dangerous goods generally, including by road, rail, air and sea. As also stated in the attachment, during the development of the national amendments, representatives from organisations responsible for regulating dangerous goods transport by air and sea were also involved.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads therefore has confidence that the development of the rules relating to the transport of dangerous goods by road and rail in Queensland has been done in an integrated manner. Specifically, the development has taken into account intermodal transport considerations.

Foreword

The National Transport Commission (NTC) is an independent statutory body established by the *National Transport Commission Act 2003.* The Commission has ongoing responsibilities to develop and maintain uniform or nationally consistent road, rail and intermodal transport reforms to improve safety, productivity and environmental outcomes.

The transport of dangerous goods is a high risk activity involving heavy vehicles on the public road and trains on the rail network. Since the early 1980s Australia has participated in an international scheme that harmonises the way that the transport of dangerous goods is regulated around the world. The lynchpin of that scheme is a document called the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods – Model Regulations* (the UN Model Regulations). It is produced under the auspices of the United Nations by the United Nations Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (the UN sub-committee).

In 2007 the National Transport Commission (NTC) published the *Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail*, seventh edition (ADG7), together with a *Model Law on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road or Rail* and a *Model Subordinate Law on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road or Rail*. These documents, heavily based on the UN Model Regulations, form the framework for the regulation of the transport of dangerous goods in Australia today. Each state and territory has passed laws that mirror the Model Law and the Model Subordinate Law. Those laws in turn adopt ADG7.

The UN sub-committee amends the UN Model Regulations every 2 years. Since 2007 2 lots of amendments to those Regulations have occurred and come into force internationally. The primary purpose of the *Model Amendment Regulations –Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road or Rail – Package No. 2* is to update ADG7 in the light of those 2 lots of amendments.

However, there is also an important secondary purpose behind Package No. 2. In common with all of the other reforms developed by the NTC, the NTC conducts a process of monitoring the operation of the transport of dangerous goods laws in Australia to ensure that they continue to reflect the needs of stakeholders and meet community expectations. As a result of that process a number of desirable changes have been identified. Package No. 2 is intended to implement those changes. In general the proposed changes are intended to clarify the operation of existing rules.

A draft version of this paper and of Package No. 2 were released for public comment during the period 6 August 2013 to 2 September 2013. A total of 16 submissions were received in response to the release of those documents, and both documents have been amended to take account of the comments made in the submissions. This paper describes the input received and the NTC's responses to that input. I thank all those who made a submission.

The NTC acknowledges the advice and assistance of the Transport of Dangerous Goods Maintenance Group in preparing Package No. 2. The Maintenance Group includes representatives from the competent authorities from each state and territory as well as representatives from the Commonwealth, organisations responsible for regulating dangerous goods transported by air and sea, and emergency services.

Greg Martin PSM

Chairman