



Haughton Vale
Jundah Qld 4736



Submission 18

6 Perkins Street
PO Box 14
Jundah Qld 4736
T 07 4658 6900
F 07 4658 6955
E shire@barcoo.qld.gov.au
W barcoo.qld.gov.au

Queensland Parliamentary Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee inquiry into rail freight use by agriculture and livestock industries in Queensland.

Barcoo Shire Council supports submissions by Quilpie, Longreach and Winton Councils to this inquiry. An efficient rail service brings cost benefits to the rural economy.

Terms of Reference:

- **Identify opportunities to enhance coordination and collaboration across government, transport industry and primary producers about rail freight**

Rail was previously a critical service for cattlemen in Barcoo Shire. Quilpie was an important rail head. Cattle from western regions are still spelled in the rail head yards. However it is essential for the future successful operation of a rail service that it be coordinated, regular and reliable to allow forward planning by: Producers; Road Transport companies (to rail head); Stock & Stations Agents; Meatworks.

Historically rail transport worked well for producers turning off cattle from large cattle properties, in the Channel Country within the Barcoo Shire. This was coordinated on the ground in western regions well prior to commencement of cattle mustering season. This system worked efficiently. It also reduced the number of cattle trucks travelling on major highways and through large towns/cities.

Producers need the flexibility to consign livestock to a variety of major points: Saleyards; meatworks.

The increasing number of tourists are welcome into Queensland. However, many are unfamiliar with the dangers of passing large cattle or general freight road trains. An efficient rail service would see a decrease in the number of cattle trucks on our major highways.

Julie Groves
Mayor