



MEDIA RELEASE

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MITEZ calls for renewed national focus on Mount Isa–Townsville Corridor infrastructure

MITEZ has expressed strong concern following the removal of the **Mount Isa–Townsville Rail Corridor Upgrade** and the **Queensland Inland Freight Route** from Infrastructure Australia’s national priority list. As the peak regional economic development body representing the Mount Isa to Townsville corridor, MITEZ said the decision highlights the ongoing challenge of ensuring **productive infrastructure in regional Australia receives appropriate national recognition and investment.**

MITEZ Chief Executive Officer **Maria James** said the Mount Isa–Townsville corridor remains one of Australia’s most strategically important freight and export routes, connecting the **North West Minerals Province to the Port of Townsville** and supporting Australia’s critical minerals, resources and manufacturing supply chains.

“The Mount Isa–Townsville corridor is one of Australia’s most strategically important resource and freight routes,” Ms James said.

“Strengthening this corridor is critical to supporting the growth of the North West Minerals Province and Australia’s critical minerals supply chains.”

Ms James said the rail line plays a vital role in moving minerals, agricultural products and industrial inputs between the North West and global markets through the Port of Townsville.

“Improving logistics and freight capacity across the corridor is essential to ensuring regional communities, industries and national supply chains remain competitive,” she said.

MITEZ said investment in corridor infrastructure must remain a national priority as Australia seeks to expand its critical minerals sector and strengthen sovereign manufacturing capability.

Ms James said regional infrastructure investment was essential to unlocking the economic potential of North and North West Queensland.

Key priorities for the corridor include:

- Upgrades to the **western sections of the Mount Isa–Townsville Rail Corridor**
- Improvements to **inland freight routes across regional Queensland**
- Investment in **energy and logistics infrastructure supporting the North West Minerals Province**
- Infrastructure that strengthens the **Pit-to-Port and Paddock-to-Port supply chain linking North West Queensland to the Port of Townsville**

“Strategic investment in regional infrastructure is critical not only for North and North West Queensland, but for Australia’s future economic growth,” Ms James said.

MITEZ will continue working with local governments, industry and all levels of government to advocate for infrastructure that strengthens regional productivity and long-term economic resilience.

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