# COTMA Conference

## August 08

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# COTMA Conference

## Presentation overview

- Tasmania's accredited tramways and railways
- Tasmanian 'Rail Rescue Package'
- an Australian Rail Regulator and Investigator



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# Tasmania's tramways and railways

| Operator | Comments |
|---|---|
| Launceston Tramways | Preservation of trams that operated in Launceston. Operating a tram in the Inveresk precinct |
| Redwater Creek Railway | 2 foot gauge railway. Operating Kraus steam locomotive |
| West Coast Wilderness | Narrow gauge using rack and pinion – 1:16 and 1:20 gradients. Reopened 2001 – full operation 2003 |
| Derwent Valley Railway | Large collection of Tasmanian rolling stock. Three of the four carriage sets of the Tasman Limited. |

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# Tasmania's tramways and railways

| | |
|---|---|
| Tasmanian Transport Museum | Variety of transport vehicles on display. Collection includes a restored double deck tram. |
| Ida Bay Railway | 2 foot gauge bush railway. Operating 1940s Malcolm Moore locomotives. |
| Don River Railway | Extensive collection of rolling stock. Large workshop and has trains operating all week |
| Wee Georgie Wood | 2 foot gauge. Operates Fowler steam locomotive used in mining industry on West Coast |

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# Tasmania's tramways and railways

## Pacific National's Tasmanian operations

- operates on Tasmanian mainline network
- network approx 620km of operational track
- intermodal and bulk traffic
- locomotives around 1800hp
- maximum length of trains around 800m with 1400t capacity

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# Tasmanian ‘Rail Rescue Package’

## Identified rail network deficiencies

- inability to achieve 24h turn-around Hobart to north-western ports
- speed restrictions, poor track infrastructure and ageing rolling stock
- load capacity constraints
- restrictions on speed
- inefficient intermodal facilities - Hobart, Burnie and Bell Bay

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# Tasmanian ‘Rail Rescue Package’

## History

- in 2005 Pacific National signaled possible closure
- PN, State and Commonwealth jointly considered how rail in Tasmania could remain viable
- 2006 commitment to ‘Rail Rescue Package’ over 10 years
  - $40m by Tasmanian government
  - $78m by Commonwealth government
  - $38m by Pacific National

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# Tasmanian ‘Rail Rescue Package’

## Elements of the package

- track to be handed back to state government
- PN to remain operator and track manager
- PN committed to replace ageing rolling stock
- Tasmanian government funds for maintenance
- Commonwealth funds for capital improvements
- additional funds following 2007 federal election

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# Tasmanian ‘Rail Rescue Package’

## Key capital works

- Brighton intermodal hub
- improvements to Bell Bay intermodal facility
- general mainline improvements
- Ryndaston line straightening
- Whiltshire line upgrade
- Karanja line upgrade
- West Coast upgrades
- total package in excess of $250m

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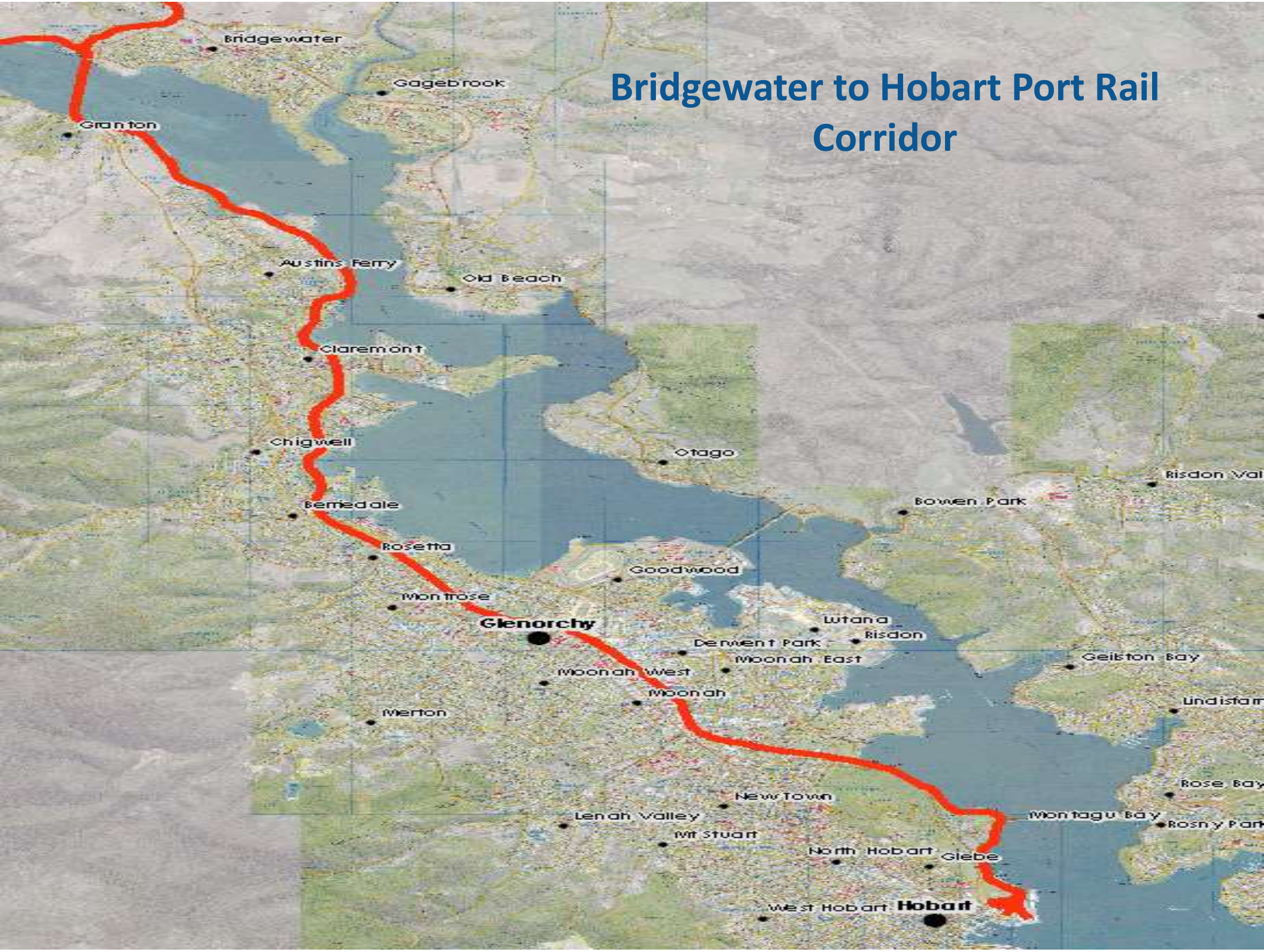
# Tasmanian ‘Rail Rescue Package’

## Light rail study - Hobart

- intermodal hub at Brighton
- Brighton to Hobart rail corridor no longer used for rail freight
- corridor represents a strategic asset
- $250k committed to feasibility study for commuter or other services

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# Bridgewater to Hobart Port Rail Corridor



# Tasmanian ‘Rail Rescue Package’

## Sale of PN Tasmanian business

- 2007 PN announced review of Tasmanian assets
- mid 2008 PN Tasmanian business formally for sale
- PN business includes Melba line on West Coast
- sale process expected to be finalised by Sept 08

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# National Regulator

## Overview

- all jurisdictions progressing national Rail Safety Act
- May 2008 Australian Transport Council requested consideration of a national rail safety regulator and investigator
- issue considered previously
- Rail Industry Association strong supporter

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# National Regulator

## Arguments for

- national focus for rail safety
- consistent regulatory practice across Australia
- increased operational effectiveness

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# National Regulator

## Process from here

- National Transport Commission to prepare report by end 08
  - consultation with all stakeholders
- consider range of options
  - status quo
  - one regulator
- Transport Ministers to consider in early 2009
- Heads of Govt to consider in 2009

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Thank you



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