

# AUSTRALASIA RAILWAY CORPORATION

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The AustralAsia Railway Corporation is a statutory body established under the *AustralAsia Railway Corporation Act 1996* and supported by South Australia through complementary legislation.

The Corporation was established in 1997 by the Northern Territory and South Australian Governments to manage the awarding of a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer back (BOOT) concession and to enter into contractual arrangements with the successful consortium.

The governments jointly guarantee the corporation's obligations, which are specified in contractual arrangements covered by the project documents. An Inter-Governmental Agreement regulates the respective rights and obligations of the two governments and the project.

The Corporation has negotiated a detailed Concession Deed, which seeks to deal with all risks identified as having the potential to arise during the project and balance those risks by apportioning appropriate responsibility for them.

The Corporation is based in Darwin. Chairman Rick Allert is a prominent South Australian businessman. The Chief Executive Officer is Paul Tyrrell, Chief Executive of the Northern Territory Department of the Chief Minister.

In the transition from the negotiation to the construction period, the corporation's role changed substantially. Two critical functions are:

- to receive and invest government financial contributions and provide progress payments against certified completion of construction;
- to manage the Corporation's contractual obligations under the project documents. Construction works are divided into Government Works and Company Works. The Government Works Program covers elements with long life low depreciation, such as embankments and bridges.

Other functions of the AustralAsia Railway Corporation during construction include:

- ensuring compliance with the Design Brief in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Transport company and coordinating the work of an Auditor and Independent Certifier;
- monitoring and reporting on the progress of the project;
- facilitating the resolution of any issues between the Asia Pacific Transport company and government agencies, to ensure unobstructed construction and ensuring the Northern Territory Government carries out its obligations regarding environmental monitoring and fencing;
- participating in a range of committees stipulated in contractual documents, covering matters such as design, community issues, environmental monitoring, Aboriginal issues, industry participation, and port development;
- monitoring the obligations of the consortium under the Local Industry and Aboriginal Participation Plan, under which the Asia Pacific Transport company has committed to spend at least 75 per cent of construction expenditure on South Australian and Northern Territory goods, services and labour;

During the operational phase, the Corporation's role will again change to:

- contract and lease administration; and
- protecting the interests of the three governments and ensuring the consortium is meeting its obligations under the project documents, including those covering operations and maintenance of the existing Tarcoola to Alice Springs railway.

For Further Information contact the AustralAsia Railway Corporation Telephone 89469595 [www.aarc.com.au](http://www.aarc.com.au)