



# Nigel Scullion

Country Liberal Party Senator for the Northern Territory  
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## Australia's North and South Joined in Major Railway Achievement

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In Alice Springs to witness the completion of the significant milestone of joining the new northern rail track to the existing Adelaide line, Senator Scullion said that the 100 year dream of Territorians for a railway link to the rest of Australia is fast becoming a reality.

“The Darwin to Adelaide railway is a nation building project equivalent to the great East – West railway to Perth and the Snowy Hydro scheme, said Senator Scullion.

“When completed the line will integrate with the new Darwin wharf to provide unparallel freight linkages between Australia and the enormous markets to our north.

“Asia Pacific Transport Consortium and their construction contractors ADrail deserve to be congratulated on the manner in which they have approached the construction of the railway and the speed at which they have completed the work so far.

“I have visited the sleeper and track welding facility in Tennant Creek and met with workers both there and in remote construction camps and was impressed with their commitment to the project.

“The sentiments of one man working in the heat and dust of a remote work camp summed up the true spirit of all those involved, said Senator Scullion.

“He told me that he had never been to the Territory before but wanted to come and help build this railway because it was an historic construction project for all Australians.

“He just wanted to be a part of it.

“This is our contribution for future generations, said Senator Scullion.

“When the railway is completed early next year the unfaltering commitment and belief in the project by many previous advocates will be well and truly rewarded.

“The Commonwealth government, Northern Territory government and the South Australian government have all contributed both financial support and political will to see this project become a reality.

“Previous CLP Territory governments should be justly recognised, and in particular ministers responsible such as the Hon Barry Coulter, for never losing faith in the dream that this railway would be built.

“Darwin is the gateway to Asia, said Senator Scullion.

“The Adelaide to Darwin Railway will now link the rest of Australia to that gateway with all Australians and Australian industries able to benefit from greatly improved access to the region to our north”.