



Representing all Multi-Combination Operators

# MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007

## VITAL COWRA MEETING FOR TRUCKS AND FARMERS

The Australian Road Train Association is strongly recommending anyone who needs an open and fair transport sector to attend a public meeting to be held in Cowra on Tuesday 12 June 2007.

This includes all heavy vehicle operators with an interest in their professional future, and all those who rely on heavy vehicles for their livelihoods – such as the agricultural sector.

The meeting will focus on heavy vehicle load regulations, and work toward developing a co-operative action plan to address the issues faced by transport operators and primary producers, such as loading inconsistencies across jurisdictional roads.

“This meeting is an opportunity for operators and those who rely on haulage in their business, to learn the latest developments regarding their obligations, as well as to put forward their concerns,” ARTA Chief Executive Duncan Bremner said.

The meeting comes as the RTA has begun sending out prosecutions to transport operators AND farmers for overweight breaches incurred in the 2005 harvest season, after subpoenaing silo records from across NSW.

“Whilst this somewhat heavy handed approach is concerning, this meeting is not to dredge over the past, but to make sure there is a strong united way forward in addressing the Chain of Responsibility laws, and to avoid these kind of situations again,” Mr Bremner said.

The meeting panel – being convened by local Nationals Member for Burrinjuck, Katrina Hodgkinson – will include representatives from the RTA on behalf of NSW Roads Minister Eric Roozendaal, NSW Shadow Transport Minister Duncan Gay, the NSW Farmers Association, and the Australian Road Train Association.

**WHEN:** 11am Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2007

**WHERE:** Cowra RSL Falcon Room

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