Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Adam Giles will tomorrow attend the Standing Council on Transport and Infrastructure (SCOTI), in Perth.

SCOTI, formerly the Australian Transport Council, is attended by all Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers who are responsible for transport and infrastructure.

Mr Giles said he is looking forward to participating in his first SCOTI meeting and ensuring the Territory’s voice is heard in the national arena.

“On coming into government, we have shown our commitment to working with the Australian Government on national reform and have already introduced rail reform safety measures, are currently working on marine safety reform and look forward to discussions on heavy vehicles,” Mr Giles said.

“I will ensure the voice of the Northern Territory is heard so that small operators are not disadvantaged by any national reform to heavy vehicle pricing.”

SCOTI aims to achieve an efficient, safe, sustainable, accessible and competitive national transport and infrastructure system, to contribute to enhancing Australia's economic development and social and environmental interests.

“Last Parliamentary sittings I introduced legislation which, if passed, will see the Northern Territory come under a National Rail Safety Regulator from January 20, 2013,” Mr Giles said.

“This effectively allows industry to deal with one regulator, rather than eight which will deliver savings both in terms of time and money, through improved productivity.”

Mr Giles said important work, however, continues in relation to marine safety and heavy vehicles.

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