Another major contract as railway gathers momentum

The signing of the third major contract to transport freight on the new AustralAsia railway is an important boost for the project Chief Minister, Clare Martin, said today.

“Momentum seems to be building for the railway and Freightlink, the owner operator of the railway, must be congratulated on signing up their third major contract,” she said.

“The contract, with Northline Freight Management, is to move 80,000 tonnes of freight to Darwin each year and is significant in that it moves Freightlink closer to its goal of transporting 350,000 tonnes of domestic freight in its first year.

“I was pleased to hear that Northline will continue to use road services to ensure smaller roadside communities along the rail have transport options utilizing rail and road.” Ms Martin said the contract was signed at FreightLink’s Adelaide headquarters this morning.

“This signing follows recently-signed contracts with the Scott Group’s Northern Territory Freight Services and FCL Interstate Transport to move 120,000 tonnes and 50,000 tonnes of freight respectively,” she said.

“Last month Freightlink joined forces with other companies to successfully conduct its first international trial shipment of 2,000 tonnes of freight.

“Building those international links is now the challenge facing the company and the Territory Government believes this will truly boost the benefits that the AustralAsia railway can deliver to the Territory and Australia.”

Ms Martin said that Northline, a privately owned company with 300 employees, has a reputation for the storage and distribution of precious cargo for clients such as Australia's wine producers.

The company will use the AustralAsia railway to transport:

- Building & Construction Materials
- Mining, Oil & Gas exploration
- Consumer goods - food/drink, clothes/shoes, electronics/whitegoods, furniture
- Automotive/Mechanical - parts, consumables; and
- Medical/Pharmaceutical

FreightLink has transported over 65,000 tonnes of freight since the railway began operations.