



Australian Government
High Speed Rail Authority

***HIGH SPEED RAIL
BUSINESS CASE
SYDNEY TO NEWCASTLE***

**CALL FOR REGISTRATIONS OF INTEREST
FOR INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT**

JULY 2024

HSRA.GOV.AU



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We recognise their ongoing cultural connection to the lands, rivers and seas.

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PART A

***INVITATION TO REGISTER
INTEREST***

1.1. Introduction

The High Speed Rail Authority (**HSRA**) formally commenced operations on 13 June 2023 as a Corporate Commonwealth entity under the High Speed Rail Authority Act 2022. HSRA is tasked with advising, planning, and developing and overseeing, the construction and operation of a transformational high speed rail network along the east coast of Australia.

The first priority of HSRA is the Sydney to Newcastle section of the high speed rail network, backed by a \$500 million commitment from the Australian Government. HSRA is taking an important step towards delivery of high speed rail in Australia, with the Australian Government allocating \$78.8 million to deliver the initial Sydney to Newcastle High Speed Rail business case.

The business case is expected to be presented to the Australian Government by the end of 2024, having determined important aspects of the new rail network including proposed alignment, station locations, rolling stock, and importantly the estimated cost and timeframe for construction of the first stage of the high speed rail network. The business case will include a detailed assessment of a broad range of options, including alternative and deferral options, station and technical options, as well as delivery, and funding and financing pathways.

Industry engagement plays a critical role in ensuring HSRA gains both domestic and international insights and feedback, to help inform the potential delivery of high speed rail in Australia and the business case. This call for registrations of interest provides a formal channel through which parties can indicate their appetite to participate in this industry engagement process.

1.2. Industry engagement process

HSRA is seeking to implement an efficient and effective industry engagement process that maximises industry input into the development of the business case. Industry engagement will provide HSRA the opportunity to consult widely with industry in a continuous process that is divided into two-stages to reflect and support the broader development of the business case. Through the industry engagement process HSRA intends to:

- Undertake market testing of emerging delivery strategy options;
- Take advantage of industry “best practice” experience on similar projects;
- Seek out innovative approaches to delivering complex, mega-infrastructure projects, and
- Provide sufficient details of the project to allow the market to provide meaningful input and prepare for potential future opportunities.

The industry engagement process is anticipated to consist of:

- The registration of interest process, and
- Industry engagement activities which may include:
 - HSRA industry briefing(s), which may be held virtually or in person;
 - Invitations for participants to provide written responses to HSRA requests for feedback on matters that could inform assessment of options within the business case; and
 - Collaborative round-table or one-on-one meetings to allow HSRA and participants to share lessons learnt and discuss key topics that contribute to the business case.

The first stage of industry engagement activities is focused on gaining high-level feedback to help define the project and product, inform options, and shape an initial delivery strategy.

The second stage of industry engagement activities is focused on gaining more targeted feedback on the emerging initial delivery strategy and other business findings for the purpose of refining and finalising the business case (including the delivery strategy and reference design).

Providing feedback and participating in the business case industry engagement process is entirely optional. Organisations that do not respond to this call for registrations of interest will not be excluded for that reason from responding to any subsequent approaches to market.

1.3. Engagement timing

The indicative dates for the industry engagement process are set out in Table 1. HSRA notes that due to the overarching business case program not all registered parties will be invited to all industry engagement forums. HSRA reserves the right to exercise its discretion in selecting which parties will participate in different engagement activities.

Table 1: Indicative timetable for the industry engagement process

Milestones	Target date
Recommended ROI submission date*	Friday, 12 July 2024
Industry engagement phase 1 (call for written submissions, meetings and round-table forums)	July – August 2024
Industry Briefing(s)	September 2024
Industry engagement phase 2 (call for written submissions, meetings and round-table forums)	September – October 2024

*Note: The registration of interest process will remain open until completion of the business case industry engagement activities. HSRA has provided the recommended date for submission of registrations to allow sufficient time for HSRA to assess and notify participants of upcoming industry engagement activities with advanced notice.

1.4. Registration process

1.4.1. Suitability requirement

HSRA is seeking registrations of interest from organisations that are both suitably experienced, and capable and qualified to provide feedback to inform the development of the business case.

Through completion and submission of the Registration Forms (refer Part B), interested parties are required to demonstrate their organisational capability or relevant experience in works of commensurate value and complexity, which may include experience as:

- Lead contractor on major civil infrastructure projects (including rail, roads, tunnelling, stations, viaducts, and earthworks)
- Lead designer, engineer, certifier, or project manager provider (client-side advisor)
- Manufacturer or installer of rail systems and/or rolling stock
- Rail and/or high speed rail network operator
- Master planning and development of places and precincts
- Provision of financing for infrastructure projects
- Other relevant experience or value to contribute to the business case as demonstrated in registrants' Registration Forms.

HSRA will review each submission and in its sole discretion determine whether each interested party is suitable to participate in any or all of the industry engagement activities.

Interested parties that do not meet the suitability requirement to HSRA's satisfaction will be notified that they will not be invited to participate in targeted industry engagement activities however, such parties will be included in ongoing project updates.

1.4.2. Submission of registration

Registrations of interest are to be comprised solely of completed Registration Forms A, B, and C (refer Part B of this call for registrations of interest) which must be provided in electronic form by email to HSRA at: industry.hsra@hsra.gov.au.

Registrations must comply with the following requirements:

- All fields within the Registration Forms must be completed (in English)
- Registration Forms should be provided within a single, combined, searchable document in PDF format
- File name of the form [Organisation Name]_HSRA_IE_ROI.

1.4.3. Recommended submission date

The registration of interest process will remain open until completion of the business case industry engagement activities.

HSRA recommends that interested parties submit registrations by **3:00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on Friday, 12 July 2024** to allow sufficient time for HSRA to assess and notify participants with advanced warning of upcoming industry engagement activities.

HSRA reserves the right to exclude participants from industry engagement activities in the event that registrations are not submitted suitably in advance.

1.5. Data room

HSRA will provide successful registrants with access to an electronic data room which will contain supporting documents and information to enable participants to effectively engage with the industry engagement process. The data room will be the primary communication channel between HSRA and participants.

Access to the data room will be subject to the participant's agreement to HSRA terms for use of the data room. Any documents made available in the data room are provided for information only.

1.6. Terms and conditions

1.6.1. General

By submitting a registration of interest and participating in industry engagement activities relating to the business case, participants acknowledge and agree to the following conditions:

- Any information provided by HSRA may not be accurate and may change
- HSRA reserves the right to publish the name of participants who submit registrations of interest and are deemed suitable by HSRA to participate in industry engagement activities
- All feedback and other information submitted by a participant to HSRA becomes the property of the Commonwealth of Australia, and HSRA may use, copy, disclose and publish such information for the purposes of the Commonwealth, including for developing or informing the development of the business case and future high speed rail business cases. However:
 - intellectual property rights in respect of the information contained in any information submitted to HSRA will not pass to the Commonwealth simply by virtue of submission of that information, and

- participants’ feedback and other information will be de-identified by HSRA prior to inclusion in any published documentation unless otherwise approved by the participant.
- The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (**FOI Act**) gives members of the public rights of access to certain documents in the possession of the Commonwealth, its agencies and entities. Participants should obtain, and will be deemed to have obtained, their own advice on the impact of the FOI Act and all other relevant legislation on their participation in this industry engagement process. Participants should take into account the operation of the FOI Act and other legislation before providing confidential or sensitive information to HSRA as part of this industry engagement process.
- In no circumstances will HSRA be responsible for any cost or expense incurred by participants’ participation in industry engagement activities. Any such participation is at participants’ sole cost and expense.
- This industry engagement process is solely for the purposes of obtaining industry feedback on the business case and consideration by HSRA of high speed rail in Australia more generally.
- HSRA and the Commonwealth (in its other capacities) is not liable to any participant as a consequence of any matter relating or incidental to this industry engagement process or a participant’s participation in industry engagement activities.

1.6.2. Selective participation

Determination by HSRA of suitability of a participant does not entitle that participant to attend or participate in all industry engagement activities undertaken by HSRA. Participants acknowledge and agree that HSRA may elect to invite select participants to participate in only some of the industry engagement activities. This is to prevent unnecessary effort from participants and HSRA where engagement would be of limited value to the industry engagement process.

1.6.3. Probity

HSRA has appointed a probity advisor to oversee the development of the business case, a representative of which may attend select industry engagement activities at the probity advisor’s discretion. Should any interested party have probity concerns they should contact the probity advisor via the following contact details:

Probity Advisor	Rory O’Connor
Organisation	O’Connor Marsden & Associates
Phone	+61 (0)416 107 627
Email	ROConnor@ocm.net.au

PART B

REGISTRATION FORMS

The following Registration Forms must be completed by the interested party in the format provided. It should be executed by a director or authorised delegate of the interested party.

Registrants are to submit:

- *One completed Registration Form A (Entity Details)*
- *A completed Registration Form B (Statement of Suitability) **for each proposed participation segment nominated in Form A***
- *One completed Registration Form C (Declaration)*

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REGISTRATION FORM A – ENTITY DETAILS

Interested Party Details	
Organisation Name:	
Business registration number: <i>(ABN/ACN or international equivalent)</i>	
Proposed participation segment: <i>(More than one may be selected)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Delivery Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunnelling, civil and viaduct contractors • Linewide contractors • Station contractors <input type="checkbox"/> Rail Providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rolling stock manufacturers • Rail systems providers • Network operators <input type="checkbox"/> Developers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over station, land and precinct developers <input type="checkbox"/> Service Providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design consultants • Certifiers • Client side project management providers <input type="checkbox"/> Financiers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project sponsors • Equity investors • Debt providers <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Contact details of Industry Engagement Representative 1	
Nominated contact name:	
Role in organisation:	
Mobile number:	
Email address:	
Contact details of Industry Engagement Representative 2	
Nominated contact name:	
Role in organisation:	
Mobile number:	
Email address:	
Details of Interested Party administrative (data room) contact	
Nominated contact name:	
Mobile number:	
Email address:	
Postal address:	

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REGISTRATION FORM B – STATEMENT OF SUITABILITY
(Note: Form B is to be repeated for each nominated participation segment)

Segment/ Sub-segment identification			
Segment/ Sub-segment:	<i>[List the segment and sub-segments this Part B – Statement of Suitability table has been completed for.]</i>		
Capability and experience of interested party			
Statement of suitability:	<i>[Insert up to 250 word statement describing why you consider your organisation to be a valid contributor to the business case through this industry engagement process.]</i>		
Project Example 1			
Project Name:			
Client:		Contract Value:	
Location:		Dates:	
Project description and relevance to HSRA industry engagement process:			
Project Example 2			
Project Name:			
Client:		Contract Value:	
Location:		Dates:	
Project description and relevance to HSRA industry engagement process:			
Project Example 3			
Project Name:			
Client:		Contract Value:	
Location:		Dates:	
Project description and relevance to HSRA industry engagement process:			

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REGISTRATION FORM C - DECLARATION

In submitting this Registration Form, the interested party:

1. Confirms it has addressed all the matters contained in the Registration Forms; and
2. Undertakes to be bound by and observe the terms and conditions stated in the call for registrations of interest.

Signed for and on behalf of	<i>[Insert name of Interested Party ABN & ACN Numbers]</i>
Signature of Director/ Authorised Delegate	
Print name	
Date	