

Parkes to Narromine



AUGUST NEWSLETTER

NSW

Long-term benefits for central NSW from Inland Rail, EY report

Inland Rail will better link central NSW businesses, farmers and producers to national and global markets and generate new opportunities for industries and regions, according to a recent EY report.



Intermodal hubs along the track will create opportunities.

The *Inland Rail Regional Opportunities* report earmarks grain storage facilities, expanded airports, and food processing and logistics hubs as beneficiaries of the long term, regional growth opportunities likely to be generated by Australia's fast freight backbone, once complete. The Parkes, Narrabri and Moree regions could emerge as rail-to-rail freight hubs between Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth in the first decade Inland Rail becomes operational, according to the EY report. Primary producers in the Narromine and Narrabri regions can also benefit from more direct access to processing centres, via Inland Rail.

Additionally, local transport, logistics, warehousing, food processing and manufacturing businesses are actively investigating opportunities to establish freight hubs with direct connections to Inland Rail and the Newell Highway.

The EY report predicts regional NSW and Victorian communities will benefit from a \$13.3 billion boost to gross regional product, GRP, during Inland Rail's first 50 years of operation. This complements the \$16 billion in gross domestic product, GDP, Inland Rail will deliver during construction.

More local jobs and business investment

Inland Rail continues to generate substantial economic benefits for the Parkes to Narromine region.

Since December 2018, more than 690 local jobs and 168 jobs for Indigenous people have been created out of a total project workforce of 1,805 people. A total of 99 local businesses have so far benefitted from more than \$100 million in spending by the project team.

To see how Inland Rail is supporting the Parkes to Narromine community, view the infographic on page 3.

View the Parkes to Narromine track

With construction of the Parkes to Narromine section almost complete, we'd like to share some new footage of the track alignment.

Visit bit.ly/2PVSnev to view the video.



Shot from the new video along the Parkes to Narromine alignment.

Construction update

We're almost there! Construction along the Parkes to Narromine alignment is nearing completion. See page 4 for the full page map.

Activity during July and August included:

- ▶ laying of sleepers, track and ballast in preparation for the final clipping and welding of the track to complete the track
- ▶ rail testing
- ▶ landscaping.

Construction highlights since December 2018 include:

- ▶ installing 171,087 concrete sleepers
- ▶ moving, or tamping, 93km of rail into place
- ▶ testing, or stressing, 83km of rail
- ▶ laying more than 100km of track in each direction, including the North West Link
- ▶ using more than 280,000 tonnes of ballast
- ▶ spraying more than 970,000m² of hydromulch, a mix of seeds and mulch to help control erosion, stop weeds and revegetate open space.

Delivering safer level crossings

We are committed to enhancing public safety and landowner access requirements at level crossings right along the Inland Rail alignment.

On the Parkes to Narromine section, we have delivered level crossing improvements at Parkes, Alectown, Peak Hill, Tomingley and Narromine.

Visit inlandrail.artc.com.au/P2N-construction-updates for more information.

Addressing life's pressures

As regional communities face the pressures of living through Covid-19, bushfires and drought, people can feel stressed, anxious or overwhelmed.

NewAccess is a free mental health and wellbeing program available to anyone over 16 years of age and does not need a doctor's referral.

Delivered locally by Marathon Health, NewAccess is supported by PHN Western NSW.

For more information please call **02 6333 2838** or visit marathonhealth.com.au/newaccess

On our wavelength

Silo FM 89.5 does more than just play great music. The Peak Hill-based community radio station is run by a close-knit group of volunteers whose positive outlooks and love of a good laugh are shared with listeners across the airwaves.

Their successful application to the latest round of the Inland Rail Community Sponsorships and Donations program will enable the purchase of new broadcasting equipment.



Visitors to the Parkes Radio Telescope viewing the daytime sky at one of the society's Friends of the Dish events.

Sharper focus for local astronomers

The Central West Astronomical Society is making the most of a new data projector it received recently, thanks to the Inland Rail Sponsorships and Donations program.

The society meets on the first Friday of every month at 7.30pm at the Parkes Observatory Visitors Centre. Anyone with an interest in astronomy and the night sky is welcome to join. No prior knowledge or special equipment is needed.

Apply now

The next round of applications for the Inland Rail Community Sponsorships and Donations program is now open.

As COVID-19 restrictions continue, we encourage applications for projects that:

- ▶ increase the capacity of your organisation to deliver services; for example, installing or upgrading tech hardware or software to improve your online services and your staff's ability to do their job
- ▶ support online literacy education programs to local communities
- ▶ include capital works which can be done by local tradespeople
- ▶ include equipment which can be bought locally
- ▶ create online STEM programs for students while they are being home-schooled.
- ▶ The amount of funding you can apply for remains between \$1,000 and \$4,000.

Applications close on 31 October 2020.

Visit inlandrail.artc.com.au/sponsorships or email IRCCommunitySponsorships@artc.com.au for more information.

December 2018
to July 2020

Community Benefits

PARKES TO NARROMINE SNAPSHOT 2020

1834

PEOPLE

have worked on
the project since
December 2018



301 of whom are
Indigenous

761 local
residents

have worked on the project

197 of whom
are local and
Indigenous

852

EMPLOYED FOR
26 WEEKS OR OVER

FOR A MINIMUM OF
15 HOURS A WEEK

SUSTAINABLE JOBS

294

TRADESPEOPLE



71

WOMEN

EMPLOYED



99

local businesses
have supplied to
the project

9

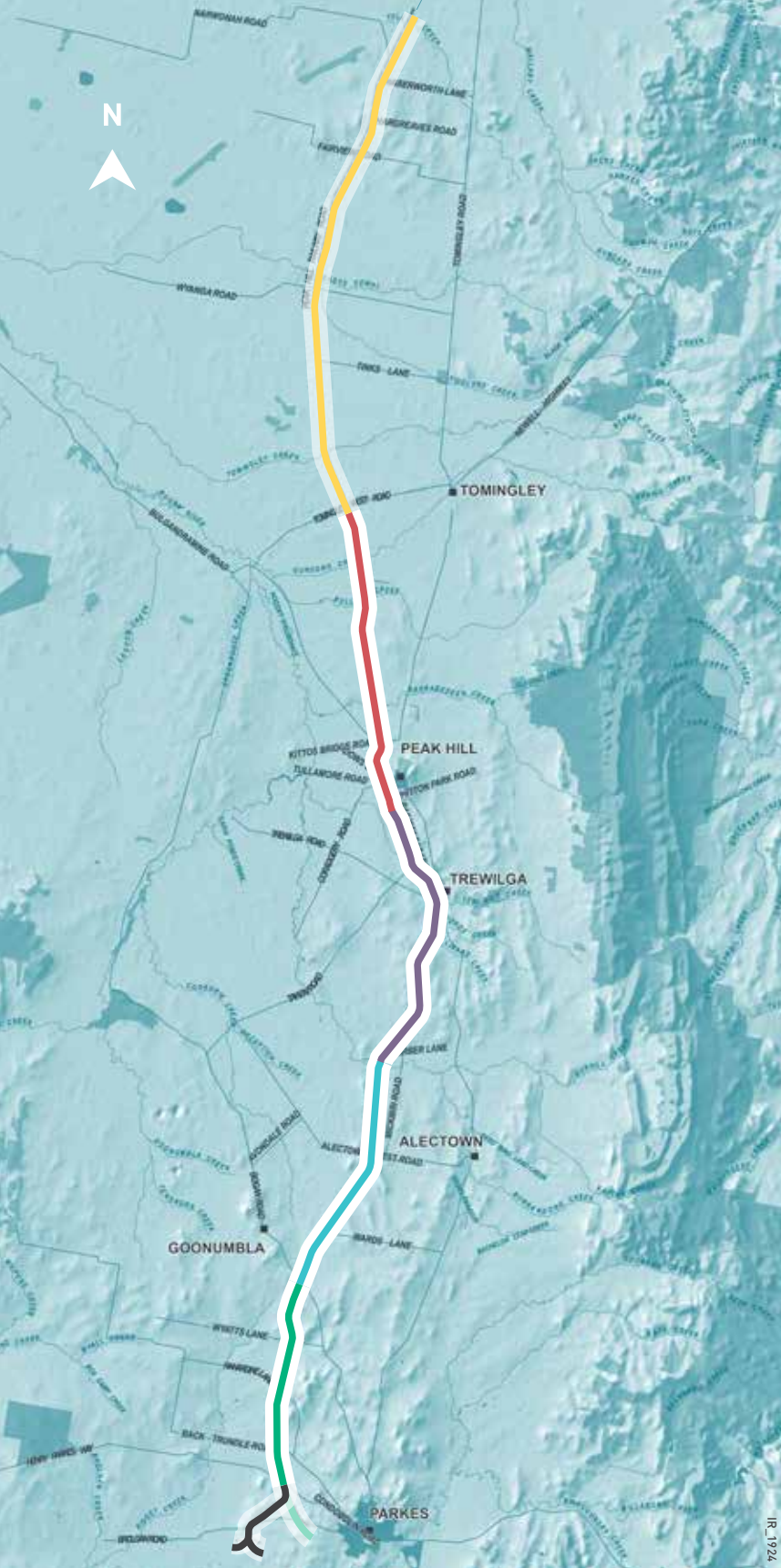
Indigenous
businesses

\$106.2M

total spend with
local businesses

\$13.4M

total spend
with Indigenous
businesses



Parkes to Narromine current works

Legend

Tomingley West to Narromine

- ▶ upgrading level crossings
- ▶ fencing assessments and installation
- ▶ signalling work
- ▶ construction trains using rail line.

Peak Hill to Tomingley West

- ▶ signalling work
- ▶ fencing assessments and installation
- ▶ construction trains using rail line.

Mickibri to Peak Hill

- ▶ fencing assessments and installation
- ▶ construction trains using rail line.

Goonumbla to Mickibri

- ▶ fencing assessments and installation
- ▶ construction trains using rail line.

Parkes to Goonumbla

- ▶ construction trains using rail line
- ▶ upgrading level crossings
- ▶ fencing assessments and installation
- ▶ signalling work.

North West Connection

- ▶ track now operational – freight trains using new track.

Want to know more?

ARTC is committed to working with landowners, communities, state and local governments as a vital part of our planning and consultation work, and we value your input. If you have any questions or comments about this fact sheet, please let us know.

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The Australian Government is delivering Inland Rail through the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), in partnership with the private sector.