Presentation to the annual Public Accounts and Estimates Committee Budget Estimates Inquiry

Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Ports and Freight





Key ports and freight initiatives

2024-25 Victorian Budget



\$104 million

for rail freight maintenance



\$10.2 million

to take polluting trucks off local roads in Melbourne's Inner West



\$16.7 million

to advance planning and design of the Victorian renewable Energy Terminal

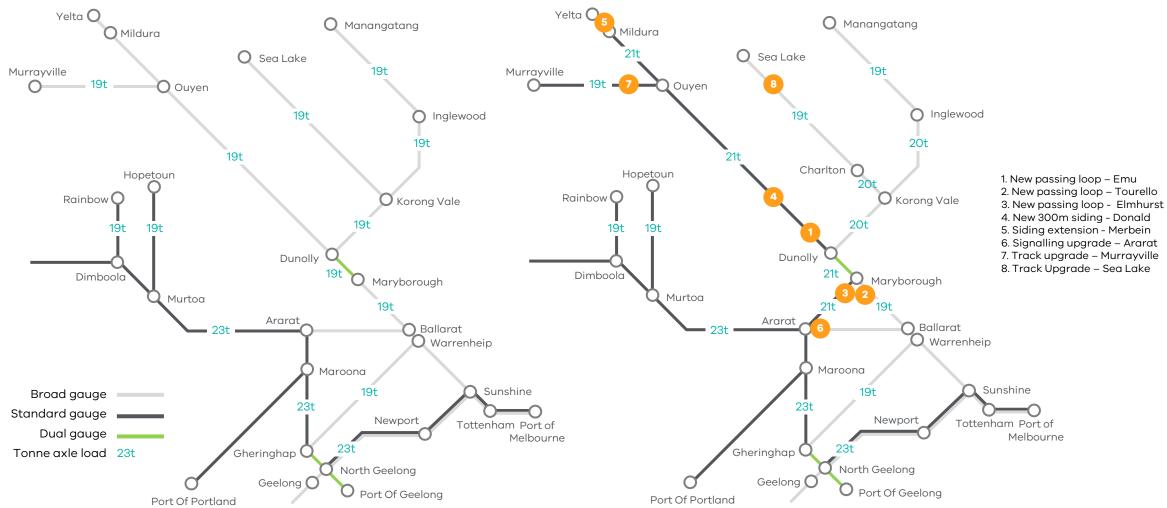


\$4.5 million

to boost marine access to Lakes Entrance

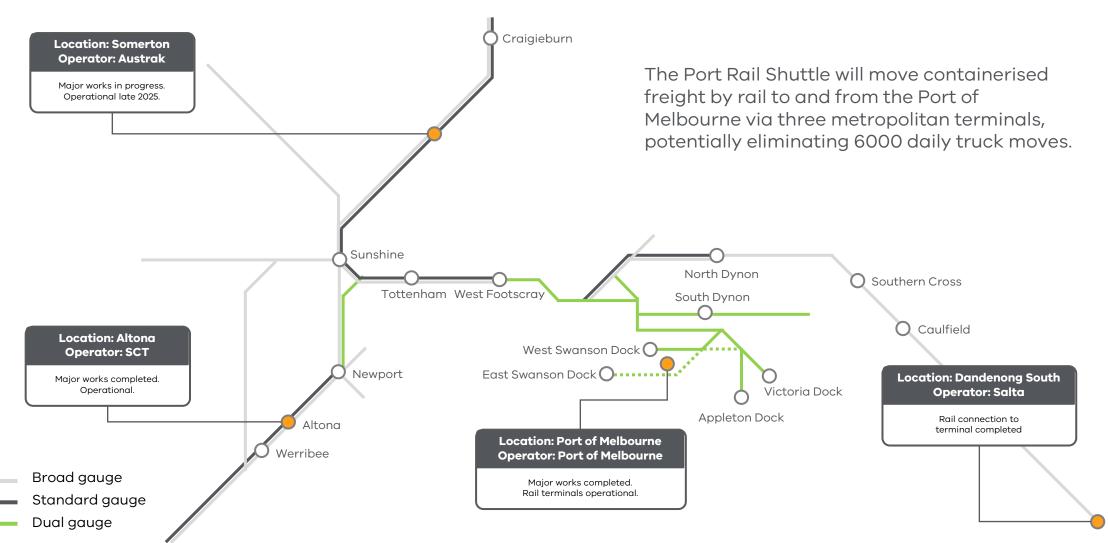
Upgrading the regional rail freight network Before and after





Port Rail Shuttle

Increasing the share of containers moved by rail





Investing in skills

- An extra \$1 million into training more heavy vehicle drivers
- Nearly 400 skilled drivers on our roads since 2016.
- Help for an industry that contributes \$21 billion annually to the state's economy and employs more than 260,000 Victorians



Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal

- The Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal will be our primary offshore wind assembly port in Victoria.
- We will continue to work closely with the Commonwealth Government to assess the EPBC decision and consider the options.
- The 2024-25 Budget invests \$16.7 million to complete planning and approval.
- VRET will be key to meeting the Victorian Government's net-zero emission target.



Investing in local ports

- \$4.5 million to ensure ongoing access to Gippsland Lakes
- 140-year-old walls are in danger of collapse
- Maintenance provides certainty of access for commercial and recreational users
- Certainty reduces the risk that commercial fishers might relocate to interstate ports.





