

*BY EMAIL*

11 February 2022

Commissioner Julie Abramson  
Commissioner Stephen King  
Productivity Commission  
Level 8, Two Melbourne Quarter  
697 Collins Street  
Docklands Vic 3008, Australia

Attention: Athena Wicks

Dear Commissioners,

**RE: World Shipping Council's submission to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Australia's Maritime Logistics System**

The World Shipping Council is the united voice of liner shipping, working with policymakers and industry groups to shape the future growth of a socially responsible, environmentally sustainable, safe, and secure shipping industry. We are a non-profit trade association with offices in Brussels, Singapore and Washington, D.C. Together, WSC's 20 ocean carrier members operate approximately 90% of the world's liner vessel services. They have invested hundreds of billions of dollars in ships, port terminals, and related infrastructure in order to ensure a wide variety of competitive options continue to exist for safe, dependable and economical international ocean transportation of cargo. A number of WSC's members provide substantial ocean transportation service to and from Australia. More information about WSC may be found at [www.worldshipping.org](http://www.worldshipping.org).

We respectfully enclose our whitepaper titled "Liner Shipping – The Backbone of World Trade" to support the work of the Productivity Commission in its inquiry into the long-term productivity of Australia's maritime logistics system.

As identified in the inquiry's terms of reference, the COVID-19 pandemic has indeed put a strain on international supply chains and disrupted global trade. The impacts are being felt across the world and in liner shipping in the form of constant challenges for crew changeovers, congestion in ports and throughout inland supply chains, as well as poor

container velocity. The challenge for all parties of the container supply chain is to find ways to make the current system work better.

The whitepaper provides an overview of the liner shipping industry, as well as WSC's views on the current disruption of global supply chains and how all stakeholders in the container supply chain can best contribute to robust supply chains.

The Productivity Commission's thoughtful consideration of our whitepaper in the course of this inquiry would be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Chia  
Managing Director Asia  
World Shipping Council

Enclosure (1): WSC Liner Shipping Whitepaper titled "Liner Shipping – The Backbone of World Trade"