



MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO HEAVY VEHICLE SAFETY

The Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety (Staysafe) has recently commenced an inquiry into Heavy Vehicle Safety. The terms of reference are attached.

Heavy vehicles account for 21% of fatal crashes on NSW roads and 14% nationally. Recently introduced changes to legislation and industrial awards address fatigue and safety management in the NSW trucking industry. Practical measures include the preparation of Driver Fatigue Management Plans and Safe Driving Plans. These measures have been progressively introduced since 2006 and it is now timely to review their operation and effectiveness in reducing the representation of heavy vehicles in the NSW road toll.

“Heavy vehicle safety is a critical part of road safety management and an area the Committee takes very seriously,” said the Chair of the Staysafe Committee, Mr Geoff Corrigan MP, Member for Camden. “The Committee would appreciate a submission from every individual and organisation with an involvement or direct interest in this area of road and traffic safety”, Mr Corrigan continued. “Every such input will make a valuable contribution to the Committee’s work”.

Submissions are requested by 27 March 2009, anticipating the calling of further evidence at public hearings to be conducted in the second quarter of 2009.

All written submissions should be forwarded to: The Committee Manager, Staysafe Committee, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000. Alternatively, submissions may be submitted electronically to: staysafe@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the Committee website at <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/staysafe> or by contacting Mr Geoff Corrigan, Chairman, on (02) 4655 3333 or Mr Bjarne Nordin, Senior Committee Officer, on (02) 9230 2843.

3 February 2009