



## Department of Justice

Secretary

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Our Ref: EC/07/1291

Mr John Eren MP  
Chair  
Road Safety Committee  
Parliament House  
Spring St  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Submitted by LC/13  
Received  
Road Safety Committee

Dear Mr Eren

### INQUIRY INTO IMPROVING SAFETY AT LEVEL CROSSINGS

Thank you for your letter of 20 August 2007 in which you invited the Department of Justice (DOJ) to make a submission to the Inquiry into Improving Safety at Level Crossings.

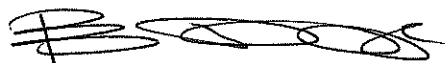
DOJ has a significant role in road safety, primarily through the Infringement Management and Enforcement Services business unit (IMES). Among other functions, IMES works with its road safety partners, VicRoads, TAC and the Victoria Police to implement the current Victorian road safety strategy "Arrive Alive!", and develop its successor strategy. IMES also manages the State's contract with its external supplier for Traffic Camera Office services (road safety camera operations and infringement processing).

Following the Kerang rail tragedy on 25 June 2007 the then Premier announced a "Major Program to Improve Level Crossing Safety in Victoria". One of the initiatives announced by the Premier was a \$1.8M project to trial the use of road safety cameras at rail intersections. DOJ subsequently established a Steering Committee to oversee this project and on 22 July 2007 the Minister for Public Transport announced the two trial locations, Springvale Rd Nunawading and Bagshot near Bendigo. The aim of the trial is to test existing camera technologies in the demanding rail crossing environment (potential electromagnetic interference, severe vibrations) and also test emerging technologies such as radar imaging. The successful detection and prosecution of a range of offences which can be committed by drivers at rail intersections (for example speeding, red-light offences, queuing on the intersection and driving around closed booms) will be tested.

The cameras and ancillary equipment will be installed from December 2007 and preliminary results from the trial will not be available for some time after that. As installation will not be completed and no results will be available prior to the reporting date for your Committee's inquiry I do not consider it appropriate for DOJ to make a submission to the Inquiry at this time.

If the Committee would like further information on the trial its research officer should contact Mr Damian MacDonald on 86847614.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Penny Armytage', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**PENNY ARMYTAGE**  
Secretary