

## Study into impact of port on Geelong

An economic impact study into the port of Geelong has been commissioned to determine comprehensively the direct and indirect contribution of the port to the economy of Geelong and livelihood of residents and businesses in the region.

It is the first time such a comprehensive and wide-ranging study into the port has been conducted and will provide a complete profile of the port and its significance to the state's economy.

The study, commissioned by 11 major organisations, is being made over nine weeks with input from more than 40 organisations involved in port and port-related activities, including importers and exporters, service providers, transport companies and regulatory agencies.

Similar studies have been completed in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Launceston, Devonport, Bunbury and Esperance.

The chief executive of the Victorian Regional Channels Authority, lan Scott, said the port of Geelong is the state's second busiest port and a major contributor to state and regional economic prosperity.

The study would be of a significant benefit to port users and associated port industries in future planning and infrastructure development, he said.

Mr Scott said the port of Geelong is the major regional gateway port for bulk cargo imports and exports. There are more than 500 ship visits each year through the port, with flow-on economic benefits to hundreds of businesses and industry in Geelong and regional areas.

The study would collect information across the entire range of port activities, such as present and future trade flows, service charges, revenue, operating costs, jobs and employment.

Mr Scott said the study would also give the Geelong and regional community a valuable insight into the significant role the port plays in Geelong and the wider region, in particular its impact on business and industry, employment and the community overall.

The study will produce two reports - a technical overview for use in future planning, and an executive summary which will be released and circulated throughout the community.

The project group which commissioned the study comprises the Victorian Regional Channels Authority, Toll Geelong Port, Victorian Freight and Logistics Council, City of Greater Geelong, Committee for Geelong, G21, Geelong Chamber of Commerce, Geelong Manufacturing Council, GrainCorp, and the Department of Infrastructure, the Department of Sustainability and Environment, and the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development.