

From: **Simon Draper, Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW**

All,

In recent days, we have spoken to some of you about ensuring continuity on construction projects. I attach a letter from the NSW Treasurer, Dominic Perrottet, to the construction industry. It sets out the NSW Government's determination to continue to deliver the NSW infrastructure pipeline, and expresses our confidence in the health and safety culture in the industry, and in the ability of the industry manage the COVID-19 event.

The NSW Government today announced closure of places where people gather, such as pubs, restaurants, gyms and cinemas. Construction projects are not impacted and will continue. Clearly, Governments will make decisions based on the latest health advice, and we should expect that there will be updates and new measures over coming days and weeks. If further steps are considered necessary, we will update you on what that means for infrastructure projects and the construction industry. We all want work to continue as much as possible without disruption, consistent with the health advice. Continuity on projects will be best served by every contractor and project team codifying and upholding rigorous practices for on-site for distancing, hygiene, safe travel and early identification of any potential infection.

Infrastructure NSW and Government agencies charged with delivering the infrastructure program have been in discussions about how we work cooperatively with the industry to maintain cash flow, employment and delivery on our projects. We understand that the current circumstances were unforeseen and that this has the potential to affect all players in the construction industry – contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, consultants and employees. The most important message is that we should talk early and talk often. We are organising calls with industry leaders during this week to discuss our general approach, and any contractor experiencing difficulties on a project should pick up the phone to their client agency as soon as possible.

We have great people in our industry who solve complex problems every day – this is just another opportunity to demonstrate that fact to the rest of the world.