



Australian Government

National Archives of Australia

Records Authority

2010/00457902

**Department of Infrastructure and
Transport**

Records relating to railways in Tasmania

5 October 2010

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ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF TASMANIAN RAILWAYS

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INTRODUCTION

This authority gives the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (the Commonwealth Department) permission under the *Archives Act 1983* to transfer the custody and ownership of records relating to railways in Tasmania to the Government of Tasmania.

In 1978 the Australian National Railways Commission assumed responsibility for the operational rail network in Tasmania. The operations were sold to the Australian Transport Network in 1997, and then to Pacific National in 2004. In December 2009 the Government of Tasmania resumed ownership of the Tasmanian railways system. The Commonwealth Department, as the controller of a large quantity of Commonwealth records relating to railways in Tasmania, has consented to transfer relevant records to the Government of Tasmania. Most of these records were created by the Tasmanian Government Railways and the Transport Commission, Tasmania before 1978. Other records were created by the Australian National Railways Commission during its period of operation in Tasmania. The Commonwealth Department inherited the records from the Australian National Railways Commission in 1997.

Having no continuing business need for the records, the Commonwealth Department recognised the significance of the records to Tasmania and the benefit that could be obtained by the Tasmanian Government and persons with a special interest in railways in Tasmania from the transfer of the records to the State. The National Archives will arrange the physical transfer of the records to the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office.

This authority is issued with the consent of the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure and Transport.

APPLICATION OF THIS AUTHORITY

1. This Records Authority authorises the transfer of custody and ownership of records relating to railways in Tasmania to the Government of Tasmania, subject to the following conditions.
2. The records to be transferred must have been identified as suitable for transfer by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport and the National Archives of Australia. The records to be transferred will be identified from time to time in separate schedules agreed between the National Archives and the Commonwealth Department in consultation with the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office and the Tasmanian Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (the Tasmanian Department).
3. Any of the following types of records inadvertently included in the records physically transferred are to be returned and remain the property of the Commonwealth:
 - Federal Cabinet documents;
 - Federal Executive Council documents;
 - ANRC Personnel records from 1975 on.
4. The Commonwealth Department should ensure that the conditions specified below are carried out in agreement with the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office and the Tasmanian Department.

Conditions of transfer

Records transferred under this Authority:

- are to be stored and handled in a manner that will promote their preservation;
- are to be stored and handled in a manner that will promote continuing fair and equitable access to them by all;
- are to be made available to the public at the age of 30 years, or sooner in accordance with legislative requirements unless there is a demonstrable need for specific exemption for a longer period;

- which are under 30 years old, or sooner in accordance with legislative requirements may temporarily be transferred into the custody of the Commonwealth Department for a period of time and for a fee to be determined by the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office in consultation with the Commonwealth Department;
- which are over 30 years old, or sooner in accordance with legislative requirements may be viewed by the Commonwealth Department on the premises of the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office upon terms agreed to between the Commonwealth Department and the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office;
- which are 30 years old, or sooner in accordance with legislative requirements may be copied in lieu of inspection on premises with a fee to be determined by the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office in consultation with the Commonwealth Department;
- are not to be destroyed, altered (except for their ultimate preservation), or otherwise disposed of without the written approval of the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office, the Commonwealth Department, the National Archives and the Tasmanian Department.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For assistance with this authority or for advice on other recordkeeping matters, please contact National Archives Agency Service Centre.

Queen Victoria Terrace
Parkes ACT 2600
PO Box 7425
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610

Tel: (02) 6212 3610
Fax: (02) 6212 3989
Email: recordkeeping@naa.gov.au
Website: www.naa.gov.au

AUTHORISATION

2010/00457902

Person to whom notice of authorisation is given:

The Secretary
Department of Infrastructure and Transport

Purpose:

Authorises arrangements for the transfer of custody or ownership of records in accordance with section 24(2)(b) of the Archives Act

Application:

Records recorded or formerly controlled by the Australian National Railways Commission relating to the railways in Tasmania.

This authorisation gives permission for the transfer of the records described. The authority will apply only if this action takes place with the consent of the agency responsible for the records.

Authorising Officer



Ross Gibbs
Director-General
National Archives of Australia

Date of issue:

5 October 2010,

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Class No	Description of records	Disposal action
21772	Records of the former Australian National Railways Commission relating to the administration and operation of the colonial/State/Australian National railways in Tasmania.	<p>Transfer custody to the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office.</p> <p>Transfer ownership to the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, Tasmania.</p> <p>See the Application Note for conditions.</p>