

## MEDIA RELEASE

26 January 2015

TasRail confirms a low speed derailment of a south bound train caused a total of 10 wagons to come off the tracks last night. The incident was reported near Kimberley on the North West Coast at 21:42 hours. No one was injured in the incident.

Two locomotives and a further 18 wagons remained on the track and were not impacted.

TasRail Chief Executive Damien White said it was a regrettable but relatively minor incident.

“The most likely cause of the derailment appears to be track related”, he said. “Our Track Engineers will carry out further inspections once the track is cleared and we will download and review all available train data over coming days”.

Mr White also revealed that at this early stage he is confident that train speed was not a factor in the incident. “I am also confident that TasRail’s new Advanced Network Control System operated as expected”, he said.

“This area of the network had not yet been upgraded but was scheduled for track re-sleeping in coming months”, Mr White said. “A Temporary Speed Restriction had been applied as a precaution, limiting train speeds to 20 kilometres per hour “.

TasRail has deployed a number of work crews to clear and repair approximately 100 metres of track. It is expected that the Western Line will remain closed for a further 24 hours. In the meantime, the Company is working with a small number of affected customers to minimise any disruption to services.

An investigation to determine the cause of the derailment is underway. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau and the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator have been notified.

**Ends**

**For more information:**

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**About TasRail**

*TasRail is a State-owned Company, established on 1 December 2009 by an Act of the Tasmanian Parliament. The principal objectives of the business are set out in the Rail Company Act 2009 and require the Company to operate a rail business in Tasmania, effectively and efficiently and to operate its activities in accordance with sound commercial practice. With a workforce of around 240 men and women, Tasmania’s current freight task is approximately 2.6 million tonnes per year – generating annual revenue in the order of \$37 million. TasRail conservatively estimates that the freight it transports by rail each year effectively removes the equivalent of 200,000 B-Double truck movements from the State’s road network.*