

6 October 2009

The Executive Director  
National Infrastructure Unit  
The Treasury  
PO Box 3724  
Wellington



Dear Executive Director

### **National Infrastructure Plan**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the document "Infrastructure: Facts and Issues".

As the first National Infrastructure Plan develops, I believe it will be important to emphasise the role spatial data (and associated digital infrastructure) can play in supporting New Zealand's future infrastructure requirements.

Spatial information and associated technology has a critical enabling role in the planning, management and maintenance of physical infrastructure. It also has a proven ability to accelerate large capital projects, generating efficiencies both on the ground as well as in the planning stages.

I draw your attention to the recent report commissioned by the Geospatial Executives' Group "Spatial information in the New Zealand economy: Realising Productivity Gains". The report states that in 2008, the use and re-use of spatial information is estimated to have added \$1.2billion in productivity-related benefits to the New Zealand economy.

The report quotes several case studies to support its findings. Many relate closely to the infrastructure sectors to be covered by the National Infrastructure Plan: electricity, telecommunications, gas, ports, airports, rail, agricultural irrigation, roads, water supply, health, education, corrections and waste water.

We are interested in engaging with you about this as the Infrastructure Plan develops. Contact can be made in the first instance with me on 4983500 or [sgordon@linz.govt.nz](mailto:sgordon@linz.govt.nz)

I enclose for your information a copy of the spatial information report. It is also available online at the following link  
<http://www.geospatial.govt.nz/productivityreport>

Yours sincerely

  
Sue Gordon  
Acting Chief Executive

National Office  
Lambton House  
160 Lambton Quay  
PO Box 5501  
Wellington 6145  
New Zealand  
Tel 64-4-460 0110  
Fax 64-4-472 2244  
Email [info@linz.govt.nz](mailto:info@linz.govt.nz)  
[www.linz.govt.nz](http://www.linz.govt.nz)  
[www.newzealand.govt.nz](http://www.newzealand.govt.nz)