

Mr Mark Diamond  
National Secretary  
Rail, Tram & Bus Union Australia  
Level 2, Trades Hall  
4-10 Goulburn Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Via email [mdiamond@rtbu.org.au](mailto:mdiamond@rtbu.org.au)

27 February 2020

Dear Mr Diamond

### **Safety of NE Line following derailment**

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated today.

ARTC, like the rest of the rail industry, is deeply saddened by the incident at Wallan last week. The safety of rail workers and the general public is our first priority at ARTC.

Whilst the findings of the investigations will no doubt take some time, ARTC has taken a very considered view in its approach to the planning for the resumption of services. The re-commissioning of the infrastructure at Wallan will be under full CTC functionality, and is planned to take place later this evening

The process of recommissioning the track and signalling infrastructure will be as a minimum in accordance with our ONRSR accredited Safety Management System, and the track will not be re-opened without ONRSR's consent.

Further, we have consulted with our Rail Operator customers to ascertain what additional actions they are taking, considering the understandably heightened levels of emotions for their employees, and in dealing with the need for an increased level of vigilance by all rail workers. Our freight and passenger customers are determining the timing and sequence of the commencement of services.

Finally, a 20kph speed restriction will be in place upon the commencement of operations as a mark of respect for the two workers who lost their lives in this tragic incident.

I would expect that as the findings of the investigation become available it will require an industry-wide effort to ensure that an incident such as this never happens again.

Yours sincerely



**Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director**