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NSW NEEDS MORE THAN MODEST GOALS

At a critical time for the National and State economies, Labor's modest infrastructure plan falls significantly short of the stimulus required, said Consult Australia.

"With an infrastructure deficit and the economy needing a kick-start, NSW needs both a sugar rush and a lifeline. Unfortunately Labor's announced pipeline provides neither" said Consult Australia NSW Manager, Alexia Lidas.

Consult Australia Chief Executive, Megan Motto commented on the broader implications of the policy.

"We need a plan that will provide the injection we need to catch up on years of infrastructure backlog, we need to incentivise businesses to grow and promote economic growth which will support the transition of the national economy.

"Labor's suggested scale of infrastructure investment is unlikely to keep up with demand, given the pace of population growth projected for NSW.

"Congestion will continue to frustrate commuters and constrain the NSW economy without more ambitious plans.

"Labor has unfortunately backed itself into a corner on asset recycling, which will cripple any plans to take advantage of the Federal asset recycling initiative. This will cost NSW, with substandard infrastructure outcomes in the short term, and reduced capacity for growth in the long term.

"The scaled-back plan highlights the need for asset leasing in NSW," said Ms Motto.

Ends

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For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact Megan Motto on 0411 104 458 or via email at megan@consultaaustralia.com.au.

About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is industry association that represents the business interests of consulting firms operating in the built and natural environment.

Our member firms include: AECOM, Brown Consulting, Golder Associates, Kellogg Brown & Root, Opus International Consultants, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Rider Levett Bucknall, URS Australia and WorleyParsons.

We represent an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia's top 500 firms. Collectively, our industry is estimated to employ over 240,000 people, and generate combined revenue exceeding \$40 billion a year.