

Mike Baird MP NSW Treasurer Minister for Industrial Relation Duncan Gay MLC Leader of Government Business LC

Minister for Roads & Ports

## MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 28 October 2013

## NICHOLAS WHITLAM APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF NEWCASTLE PORT CORPORATION

NSW Treasurer Mike Baird and Ports Minister Duncan Gay today announced the appointment of Nicholas Whitlam as Chairman of Newcastle Port Corporation (NPC).

Mr Whitlam takes on the role in addition to his current responsibilities as Chairman and CEO of Port Kembla Port Corporation, and Chairman of Sydney Ports Corporation.

"I am very pleased that Mr Whitlam has agreed to take on the role of Chairman of Newcastle Port Corporation," said Mr Baird.

"Mr Whitlam's experience speaks for itself. His extensive career in international banking and finance, coupled with his experience as a director of NSW Government owned port assets, makes him the ideal appointment.

"While we are awaiting the scoping study on the proposed long-term lease of Newcastle Port and no decision has been made, Mr Whitlam's experience in steering the Port Kembla and Sydney Ports Boards through a successful transaction process will prove to be incredibly valuable, should we proceed.

Mr Gay paid tribute to retiring Chairman Paul Jeans, who ends his current term as Chairman of Newcastle Port Corporation Board today.

Mr Jeans has been a Director of Newcastle Port Corporation since 2002 and has served as Chairman since May 2008.

"I commend Paul for his stewardship of Newcastle Port Corporation. On behalf of the NSW Government I would like to thank Paul for his service and wish him well for the future," Mr Gay said.

Mr Whitlam commences as Chairman of Newcastle Port Corporation immediately.

Mr Baird reiterated that the scoping study for the proposed port transaction remains on track, with the NSW Government expecting to make a decision by the end of the year.

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