# Infrastructure Australia Bridging the infrastructure gaps

#### Infrastructure Australia's role

- Infrastructure Australia was established in 2008 with 3 priority tasks
  - the National Infrastructure Audit;
  - an Infrastructure Priority List; and
  - National PPP Policy & Guidelines

### **Infrastructure Priorities**

- IA identified 7 strategic themes which it believes should be the focus for investment and/or reform
- IA will soon recommend that Government support priority initiatives within these themes
- IA will then work with jurisdictions to develop initiatives that better target the challenges

### Themes for action

- National broadband network
- A national energy market
- Competitive international gateways
- A national freight network
- Adaptable and secure water supplies
- Transforming our cities
- Essential indigenous services

### Why the focus on PPPs?

- The infrastructure gap was expected to be large
- Public investment would need to be augmented
- PPPs seen as the key vehicle for private investment in public infrastructure

## New challenges for PPPs

- Governments now face challenges in attracting bidders for PPP projects
- Bidders now face challenges in accessing debt and equity
- No-one has obvious solutions to either of these challenges
- Any changes to the PPP model must be sustainable over the long term

## What's next?

- Explore alternative finance sources
  - Guarantee for bonds
  - Government debt
  - Government capital contribution
  - Others
- Explore potential for overseas participation

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