



**NSW MINISTER FOR ROADS**  
**MICHAEL DALEY MP**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **MINISTER WELCOMES FUNDS FOR KEMPSEY BYPASS**

Thursday 14 May 2009

Minister for Roads Michael Daley today told parliament that the Federal Government's \$8.8 billion investment into NSW roads over the next five years was a terrific result for NSW motorists particularly those living along the state's north coast.

"The Federal Government has decided to pump \$2.1 billion – around a quarter of the entire Infrastructure Australia fund – into NSW road projects," Mr Daley said.

'We're delighted they have chosen to include \$618 Kempsey Bypass in this program.

"The best news is that we've already done most of the planning for the project, so we'll be looking to award a contract and get the shovels in the ground as early as next year.

"This 14.5 kilometre bypass is an important project for the people of Kempsey which will help save lives and improve this vital freight route.

"It will also employ around 450 people directly, and support more than 1,400 families indirectly over the next four years while the bypass is being constructed," he said.

"But bizarrely, the Leader of the Nationals and the Shadow Minister for Roads, Andrew Stoner, yesterday said that Tuesday's budget was "bad for regional and coastal NSW".

"It's a concern that the Leader of the Nationals and Shadow Minister for Roads thinks that a first-class four-lane highway, designed to take trucks off the local streets, can be bad for the people of Kempsey," Mr Daley said.

Mr Daley said the Infrastructure Australia funds for the Kempsey Bypass were in addition to the State and Federal Government's \$6.67 billion Nation Building agreement, about half of which had been earmarked for the highway.

"Right now the Pacific Highway upgrade is supporting 1,360 jobs along the east coast, and these new funds will continue to boost our economy, creating around 7,000 direct and indirect jobs over the course of the agreement.

"The Pacific Highway upgrade is one of the largest ever infrastructure projects this country has seen and we're working with the Federal Government to complete it as quickly as possible," Mr Daley said.