



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

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **REES GOVERNMENT WELCOMES FINALISATION OF NATION BUILDING PROGRAM**

Sunday 26 April 2009

Minister for Roads Michael Daley today welcomed the finalisation of the Federal Government's record \$26.4 billion Nation Building program which includes an \$8.6 billion investment into NSW road and rail programs.

Mr Daley said the Rees Government was taking immediate steps to make sure the funds for NSW projects were put to use without delay to boost the state's economy and create jobs for our construction industry.

"The Nation Building program is a huge win for the entire country, but especially NSW, with more funds dedicated to road and rail projects than any other state," he said.

"A record \$8.6 billion will be injected into our road and rail network over the next six years to build new roads, upgrade major highways, fix black spots, improve rail crossings and construct new rest areas.

"The Federal and State Governments are keen to see these projects start as quickly as possible and I'm pleased to report that we already have a plan in place to expedite these projects where possible.

"The \$8.6 billion package for NSW includes \$2.5 billion for the Pacific Highway to fast track one of the largest road upgrade projects ever carried out in this country.

"Our highest priorities for the Pacific Highway under this program will be the construction of the Ballina Bypass, the duplication of the highway from Tintenbar to Ewingsdale and Sapphire to Woolgoolga and the upgrade at Sextons Hill.

"When completed, the Pacific Highway upgrade will provide this state with 664 kilometres of continuous dual carriageway from the F3 freeway near Hexham to the Queensland boarder.

"The Hume Highway is also set to receive a massive \$950 million under the program to fast track the F5 widening in Sydney's south and the bypasses at Tarcutta, Woomargama and Holbrook.

"These regional projects will not only go a long way to ensuring we have a first class road network that is safe and efficient for both light and heavy traffic, it will also mean thousands of jobs for regional NSW over the next six years," Mr Daley said.

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