



Next big step for Port Kembla unveiled

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The Master Plan for the major development of Port Kembla's **Outer Harbour** will be unveiled on Friday.

NSW Ports Minister Joe Tripodi said the expansion was the next big step in ensuring the growth and future success of Port Kembla.

"The development allows for the reclamation of approximately 52 hectares of land and the construction of 7 new berths," Mr Tripodi said.

"This Master Plan is about creating more infrastructure and jobs for the Illawarra. It builds on the significant investments already made including making Port Kembla the state's vehicle importing hub."

The development will be staged to meet the needs of customers with each stage coordinated into the overall Master Plan to ensure efficient use of land.

"The design is innovative and provides the most economical and efficient reclamation, satisfying the commercial drivers of the port," Mr Tripodi said.

"The plan can be amended and adapted over time to accommodate new business, changes in technology and offshore development."

The Master Plan will be unveiled by Port Kembla Port Corporation's Chairman Nick Whitlam and CEO Dom Figliomeni at the Shipping Australia lunch on Friday, July 25.

"The Master Plan will be submitted to the Department of Planning for approval in early 2009," Mr Figliomeni said.

Each individual stage of the development will require specific project assessment and approval.

Mr Whitlam said the expansion plans will help provide the long term employment opportunities the community is looking for.

"The growth of the industry in Port Kembla is great news for all concerned," he said.

"We want to make sure the community is involved the whole way. The Environmental Assessment process will start very soon and this will be an opportunity for the community to have their say on the Master Plan" Mr Whitlam said.