



**THE HON. JOE TRIPODI MP**  
**MINISTER FOR FINANCE**  
**MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**MINISTER FOR REGULATORY REFORM**  
**MINISTER FOR PORTS AND WATERWAYS**

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M E D I A R E L E A S E

## **Outer Harbour work begins – more jobs for Illawarra**

March 27, 2009

Ports and Waterways Minister Joe Tripodi has moved to secure more jobs for the Illawarra by bringing forward investment and development at Port Kembla.

“We are bringing forward Stage 1 of the Outer Harbour development while the Port Kembla Port Corporation prepares a business case for investment in the project,” Mr Tripodi said.

“PKPC will purchase one million tonnes of blast furnace slag (BFS) for land reclamation work.”

Mr Tripodi said the Rees Government wants to bring forward as much infrastructure investment as possible for the Illawarra region.

“The reclamation process will create 15 new jobs with close to 50 new jobs for the whole of stage 1,” Mr Tripodi said.

“We are still working to create a positive business plan for the Outer Harbour development to ensure there is enough commercial investment for it to proceed.

“We are confident we will get investors and the development will happen so that’s why we are moving forward.”

Wollongong MP Noreen Hay said jobs are needed in her electorate and tough times are being experienced in the region.

“We are not going to sit on this project and wait for a global economic upturn when we can create new jobs and strengthen the local economy,” Ms Hay said.

“The Outer Harbour is crucial for the future growth of the port and the capacity of the region to attract new business.”

Minister for the Illawarra and Kiera MP David Campbell welcomed the commencement of the project.

“More business in Port Kembla means more jobs in the Illawarra,” he said.

PKPC has signed an agreement with Australian Steel Mill Services (ASMS) to purchase the BFS which has been stored in piles around the port for more than 20 years.

ASMS is a Wollongong based company responsible for the management of the BFS arising from the iron and steel making processes at Bluescope Steel.

ASMS have previously provided BFS for use by the RTA in road base on the Princes Highway and as land fill at the Tallawarra Power Station.

Commencement of the land reclamation for the Outer Harbour development is expected to commence in early 2010.

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