



Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Planning
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Lands
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

MEDIA RELEASE

18 August, 2010

1,300 JOBS & MORE THAN \$560 MILLION INVESTMENT IN JULY

A total of 42 development proposals worth more than \$560 million and support in excess of 1,300 jobs were approved through the NSW planning system in July 2010.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the figures show the State's major projects assessment system is continuing to facilitate strong investment.

"Since September 2008, the Government has granted 830 approvals supporting more than 126,900 jobs and \$36.5 billion in investment in NSW," the Minister said.

During July 2010:

- 42 approvals were granted, supporting 803 construction jobs, 509 operational jobs and \$561 million worth of capital investment;
- Of the 42, three were approved by the Minister; and
- A further 38 approvals were made by the Department of Planning and one by the Planning Assessment Commission under relevant parts of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

July approvals involved investment across a wide range of industry and development types, including:

- A state-of-the-art clean energy research facility at the University of NSW, creating around 400 jobs including 100 ongoing, and ensuring the State continues to provide leadership on the mitigation of climate change;
- A \$7 million modification to the Tooheys Brewery at Lidcombe which allows for a 45% increase in the production of Heineken to cater for a growing demand for boutique beer;
- A \$3 million extension of Tharbogang quarry to enable Griffith City Council to expand its delivery of construction materials to the local market;
- A \$295 expansion of the Narrabri Coal Project which will deliver a significant investment in the region and create around 100 local jobs.

"These are all important boosts to local, regional and ultimately the NSW economy all of which have been delivered through the State's major projects assessment system," the Minister said.



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Major Projects – State Wide Update – July 2010

1 to 31 July 2010					
	Approvals	Jobs – Construction	Jobs – Operational	Jobs – Total	CIV
Minister					
Part 3A					
Concept	0	0	0	0	\$0
Project	2	329	103	432	\$93,437,252
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	2	329	103	432	\$93,437,252
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Part 4	1	10	5	15	\$3,300,000
Part 4 Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Total	3	339	108	447	\$96,737,252
Department					
Part 3A					
Concept	0	0	0	0	\$0
Project	6	333	352	685	\$374,000,000
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	6	333	352	685	\$374,000,000
Part 3A Mod	18	119	0	119	\$88,702,727
Part 4	6	3	2	5	\$697,500
Part 4 Mod	8	9	47	56	\$1,338,000
Total	38	464	401	865	\$464,738,227
Planning Assessment Commission					
Part 3A					
Concept	0	0	0	0	\$0
Project	1	0	0	0	\$0
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	1	0	0	0	\$0
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Total	1	0	0	0	\$0
Grand total	42	803	509	1,312	\$561,475,479



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8 September 2008 to 31 July 2010					
	Approvals	Jobs – Construction	Jobs – Operational	Jobs – Total	CIV
Minister					
Part 3A					
Concept	33	28,363	20,636	48,999	\$13,837,171,261
Project	131	21,426	26,002	47,428	\$16,844,474,017
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>49,789</i>	<i>46,638</i>	<i>96,427</i>	<i>\$30,681,645,278</i>
Part 3A Mod	14	2,550	12,468	15,018	\$2,633,614,000
Part 4	9	11	5	16	\$6,386,760
Part 4 Mod	14	23	0	23	\$14,885,858
Total	201	52,373	59,111	111,484	\$33,336,531,896
Department					
Part 3A					
Concept	3	150	500	650	\$109,600,000
Project	53	4,782	2,604	7,386	\$1,033,749,252
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>4,932</i>	<i>3,104</i>	<i>8,036</i>	<i>\$1,143,349,252</i>
Part 3A Mod	218	650	549	1,199	\$930,199,433
Part 4	143	190	89	279	\$38,951,454
Part 4 Mod	193	358	132	490	\$225,328,181
Total	610	6,130	3,874	10,004	\$2,337,828,320
Planning Assessment Commission					
Part 3A					
Concept	3	2,130	1,755	3,885	\$431,265,000
Project	16	735	796	1,531	\$426,745,820
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>2,865</i>	<i>2,551</i>	<i>5,416</i>	<i>\$858,010,820</i>
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Total	19	2,865	2,551	5,416	\$858,010,820
Grand total	830	61,368	65,536	126,904	\$36,532,371,036



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Glossary of Terms

Major Projects

Major Projects are proposals that come to the State Government for assessment and determination under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act). The Major Projects State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) provides a list of the types of development which can be considered major projects, along with relevant thresholds or location. If the Minister forms the opinion that a particular proposal meets the criteria outlined in the Major Projects SEPP, then it is declared a major project. This is sometimes referred to as a 'non-discretionary' project. The Minister also has the power to declare a proposal to be a Major Project by order in the Government Gazette should the Minister consider the project to be of State or regional environmental planning significance. This is sometimes referred to as a 'discretionary project.'

Part 3A

Part 3A of the Act sets out the steps which must be followed in the assessment of major projects such as public exhibition of the proposal and factors to be considered in the assessment of the project.

Concept plan

A concept plan provides a broad overview of the proposed development and establishes a planning framework for the site. Once a proposal has been declared a major project the Minister may also decide whether to authorise or require the proponent to lodge a concept plan for the project. If a concept plan is approved, further approvals may be required before the project can proceed to actual construction and future project applications for the site must be consistent with the approved concept plan.

Project application

While concept plans can be useful for some larger or more complex sites, the majority of proposals assessed as major projects are 'project applications'. Rather than providing a broad overview, a project application is an application to actually construct something, for example: a power station, tourist facility or hospital. Approval of a project application means that the proponent is able to proceed to the construction phase of the project, subject to the imposed conditions of approval.

Part 4

Part 4 of the Act is that part of the legislation under which the vast majority of development applications (DAs) are assessed across the State, including applications to local councils for matters such as residential unit blocks or commercial buildings. While most proposals dealt with by the State Government are handled under Part 3A of the Act, the Government continues to be the consent authority under Part 4 for certain types of development – most commonly in the alpine area of the State.

Part 3A & Part 4 Modifications

Proponents may apply to have their approval modified to allow for a project to be varied or to proceed in a different manner than originally approved. In order to have a proposal considered as a modification the proponent must demonstrate that the proposal, once modified, will remain substantially the same as the development that was originally approved. If this is not the case, the proponent is required to lodge an entirely new project application under 3A or DA under Part 4.
