



Hon Tony Kelly MLC  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Infrastructure  
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Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Tarcutta Bypass to improve road safety**

Approval has been granted for the Tarcutta Bypass, one of the final stages in the upgrade of the Hume Highway.

NSW Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said planning approval has been granted for the construction of 7.5 kilometres of dual carriage highway north-west of Tarcutta, to be used as an alternate route to the existing highway through the town itself.

“The project is fully funded by the Federal Government with work expected to start shortly,” the Minister said.

“The bypass will almost complete the NSW and Federal Government aim for a continuous divided four-lane highway between Sydney and Melbourne.”

Acting Minister for Transport and Roads, David Borger, said the Hume Highway is the major interstate road transport corridor between Sydney and Melbourne, carrying over 20 million tonnes of road freight annually and around a fifth of the Sydney-Melbourne passenger travel market.

“The bypass will deliver significantly improved road safety for motorists as well as enhanced efficiency for freight transport with heavy vehicles no longer having to travel directly through the township itself,” Mr Borger said.

As part of the Department of Planning’s assessment of the project, the proposed corridor was realigned 80 metres to the west to avoid the historic brick well at Hambledon Homestead, a State heritage-listed site.

A total of 67 strict conditions have also been imposed.

They include:

- Review operational noise mitigation measures – such as low noise pavements, roadside noise barriers and architectural treatments – within six months following commencement of construction;
- Undertake noise auditing within a year of commencing operation of the road;
- Prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the Hambledon Homestead; and
- Implement management measures to protect indigenous heritage in the vicinity of the project.

Mr Kelly said the Biodiversity Offsets Strategy prepared for the entire Hume Highway Upgrade program will now be updated to include a specific package for this project.

“Fauna crossing measures will also be developed and implemented along the length of the project, minimising the impact of the bypass on natural fauna movements,” the Minister said.

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