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JOBS BOOST FOR WESTERN SYDNEY

A $49 million concrete and asphalt production and recycling facility, which will create 64 new jobs, has been approved in Western Sydney.

The approval will also allow existing facilities to remain on Hanson’s Eastern Creek site for the next three years, securing 147 current jobs, while the upgrade is being implemented.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said concept plan approval has been granted for demolition and relocation of the existing facilities and in its place the construction of a:

- Concrete batch plant with a yearly production capacity up to 144,000 cubic metres;
- Logistics centre / fuel depot and workshop;
- Concrete recycling facility;
- Materials storage depot;
- Asphalt / emulsion plant with a production capacity up to 360,000 tonnes a year; and
- Associated infrastructure including office, laboratory, stormwater detention basin and local precinct road.

A proposal for a concrete masonry plant was deleted during the assessment process.

Mr Kelly said further detailed project applications will need to be lodged before construction of these new facilities can begin.

“A total of 52 conditions have been placed on the project approval to continue existing operations,” the Minister said.

“The Department of Planning worked with Blacktown City Council and Hanson to ensure the provision of adequate infrastructure to service the project.”

As part of the project approval, the proponent is required to:

- Construct a new stormwater detention basin on site to service the development with no cost to council;
- Construct a local precinct road through the site to be dedicated to council which may link to other new roads through the employment area in the future;
- Contribute toward the acquisition and construction of the local quarry link road;
- Contribute up to $1.926 million for regional road infrastructure, with these contributions to be made progressively as the site is redeveloped;
- Implement a detailed environmental management strategy to outline how the State regulations applicable to the project will be met and the local community will be informed;
Undertake a comprehensive review of the project’s environmental performance to identify and manage any environmental impacts; and

- Implement plans to manage operational noise, air quality and water on-site.

Minister for Western Sydney, David Borger, said the approved concept plan will allow Hanson to modernise its existing facility, which offers essential concrete and construction material supply and recycling at a central location in this identified urban growth area in Western Sydney.

“The site has the added advantage of being located adjacent to key road networks, including the M4 and M7 motorways, which is beneficial in terms of both accessibility and minimising transport of construction materials to the rapidly developing employment area,” Mr Borger said.

“It forms part of the Government’s plan to boost employment and economic activity in the Western Sydney Employment Area.”