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MEDIA RELEASE

8 March, 2010

NEW PLAYGROUND FOR DARLING HARBOUR

Work has started today on Sydney's largest family playground which will boast some of the most popular activities from parks throughout the world.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the playground will cover more than 4,000 square metres.

"More than 28 million people visit Darling Harbour each year and this new playground will be a great new attraction for Sydney and visiting families," the Minister said.

"Mums and dads, teenagers and young children will all be catered for."

The activities area will include:

- Water wheels and channels;
- Hand pumps;
- Synchronised water jets;
- Large climbing rope structures;
- Balancing beams;
- Climbing walls;
- A spinning wheel;
- Sand pit with digging implements;
- Large swings;
- Giant slide;
- Rope bridge;
- Flying fox.

Mr Kelly said the playground is part of the \$500 million redevelopment of Darling Walk by Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and Lend Lease.

"The redevelopment includes 56,000 square metres of new commercial office space, a new retail precinct, 600-space public car park, community green and a children's theatre," the Minister said.

"The rejuvenation of Darling Walk will bring a new energy and atmosphere to the southern end of Darling Harbour.

"The Darling Walk project has created 7,000 construction jobs and when completed in 2011, will deliver new public spaces for the people of Sydney and bring around 5,000 new office workers to the precinct.

"This project is a fantastic example of the NSW Government working in partnership with business."

The existing playground at Darling Harbour will close today with the new playground opening next year.

A temporary play area will be installed in May in front of the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.