



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

17 May, 2010

16,800 JOBS AND MORE THAN \$1 BILLION INVESTMENT IN APRIL

A total of 31 major projects worth more than \$1 billion and support 16,800 jobs were approved through the NSW planning system in April 2010.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the April figures demonstrate the NSW Government's continued support for job-creating investment.

"Since September 2008, the Government has granted 721 approvals supporting more than 110,000 jobs and \$34.3 billion worth of investment in NSW," the Minister said.

"The Government's commitment to supporting jobs and investment in NSW remains solidly in place and these figures are testament to that."

During April 2010:

- 31 approvals were granted, supporting 11,511 construction jobs, 5,248 operational jobs and more than \$1 billion worth of capital investment;
- Of the 31, five were approved by the Minister;
- A further 25 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.

Mr Kelly said April saw the approval of a number of projects which are highly significant in a range of industry sectors including retail, waste management, and road and water infrastructure.

They included:

- The expansion of Sydney Adventist Hospital in Wahroonga which will deliver around 16,000 jobs over 20 years, including 5,000 operational jobs, whilst protecting half the site from development with significant environmental values;
- The \$58 million Australian headquarters for international retailing giant Costco at Auburn, supporting around 360 jobs in an important economic corridor in Sydney's west and further cementing Sydney as Australia's only global city;
- The Holbrook Bypass project - representing the final link in the upgrading of the Hume Highway to a continuous four-lane highway between Sydney and Melbourne;
- The \$6.5 million Orange waste facility at Molong; and
- The \$96 million Murrumbidgee to Googong water pipeline which will help secure drinking water for Queanbeyan and other NSW towns near the ACT.



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Major Projects State-wide Update – April 2010

1 to 30 April 2010					
	Approvals	Jobs – Construction	Jobs – Operational	Jobs – Total	CIV
Minister					
Part 3A					
Concept	2	11,130	5,230	16,360	\$634,233,000
Project	3	320	15	335	\$360,600,000
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	5	11,450	5,245	16,695	\$994,833,000
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Part 4	0	0	0	0	\$0
Part 4 Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Total	5	11,450	5,245	16,695	\$994,833,000
Department					
Part 3A					
Concept	0	0	0	0	\$0
Project	1	2	0	2	\$1,684,921
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	1	2	0	2	\$1,684,921
Part 3A Mod	8	52	0	52	\$38,365,000
Part 4	9	4	2	6	\$1,510,500
Part 4 Mod	7	3	1	4	\$0
Total	25	61	3	64	\$41,560,421
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	31	11,511	5,248	16,759	\$1,036,393,421



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8 September 2008 to 30 April 2010					
	Approvals	Jobs – Construction	Jobs – Operational	Jobs – Total	CIV
Minister					
Part 3A					
Concept	31	27,093	18,890	45,983	\$13,414,852,630
Project	126	20,737	22,455	43,192	\$16,509,857,765
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>47,830</i>	<i>41,345</i>	<i>89,175</i>	<i>\$29,924,710,395</i>
Part 3A Mod	12	2,500	12,457	14,957	\$2,594,414,000
Part 4	8	1	0	1	\$3,086,760
Part 4 Mod	14	23	0	23	\$14,885,858
Total	191	50,354	53,802	104,156	\$32,537,097,013
Department					
Part 3A					
Concept	1	0	0	0	\$0
Project	37	970	839	1,809	\$343,948,950
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>970</i>	<i>839</i>	<i>1,809</i>	<i>\$343,948,950</i>
Part 3A Mod	173	298	541	839	\$167,696,706
Part 4	131	184	89	273	\$44,543,954
Part 4 Mod	178	279	81	360	\$681,240,181
Total	520	1,731	1,550	3,281	\$1,237,429,791
Planning Assessment Commission					
Part 3A					
Concept	1	550	600	1,150	\$120,000,000
Project	9	735	796	1,531	\$426,745,820
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1,285</i>	<i>1,396</i>	<i>2,681</i>	<i>\$546,745,820</i>
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0	\$0
Total	10	1,285	1,396	2,681	\$546,745,820
Grand total	721	53,370	56,748	110,118	\$34,321,272,624



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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.



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ALMOST 1,500 JOBS AND NEARLY \$300 MILLION INVESTMENT IN MARCH

A total of 31 major projects worth almost \$300 million and support nearly 1,500 jobs were approved through the NSW planning system in March 2010.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the figures demonstrate efficient and transparent major project assessment by the NSW Government.

“Since September 2008, the Government has granted 690 approvals supporting nearly 93,360 jobs and almost \$33.3 billion worth of investment in NSW,” the Minister said.

“The Government is committed to supporting jobs and investment in NSW and these figures for March reflect that commitment.”

During March 2010:

- 31 approvals were granted, supporting 462 construction jobs, 1,029 operational jobs and nearly \$300 million worth of capital investment;
- Of the 31, five were approved by the Minister;
- A further 25 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.

Mr Kelly said projects across a range of sectors have been granted approval in March.

“These include a \$58 million expansion of the Cowal gold mine in the State’s Central west, which will extend the life of the mine by two years and support 800 regional jobs, including its 370-strong workforce,” the Minister said.

“Public domain works at Darling Walk will deliver Sydney’s largest family playground, covering more than 4,000 square metres, for the benefit of the Darling Harbour’s 28 million annual visitors.

“State-of-the-art new laboratory facilities at the John Hunter Regional Hospital Precinct west of Newcastle, will enable the Hunter Medical Research Institute to consolidate its existing operations into one purpose-built facility.

“These are just some examples of how the NSW planning system is delivering new services and investment across a range of project sectors, from extractive industries to public recreation and medical research, to support the needs of the State.”



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Major Projects – State Wide Update – March 2010

1 to 31 March 2010						
	Approvals	Jobs – Construction	Jobs – Operational	Jobs – Total	CIV	
Minister						
Part 3A						
Concept	0	0	0	0		\$0
Project	3	50	450	500		\$89,657,780
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	3	50	450	500		\$89,657,780
Part 3A Mod	1	0	370	370		\$58,000,000
Part 4	0	0	0	0		\$0
Part 4 Mod	1	0	0	0		\$0
Total	5	50	820	870		147,657,780
Department						
Part 3A						
Concept	0	0	0	0		\$0
Project	2	5	30	35		\$27,794,000
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	2	5	30	35		\$27,794,000
Part 3A Mod	9	0	160	160		\$13,800,000
Part 4	8	7	4	11		\$735,000
Part 4 Mod	6	0	0	0		\$20,000
Total	25	12	194	206		\$42,349,000
Planning Assessment Commission						
Part 3A						
Concept	0	0	0	0		\$0
Project	1	400	15	415		\$109,324,820
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	1	400	15	415		\$109,324,820
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0		\$0
Total	1	400	15	415		\$109,324,820
Grand total	31	462	1,029	1,491		\$299,331,600



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8 September 2008 to 31 March 2010						
	Approvals	Jobs – Construction	Jobs – Operational	Jobs – Total		CIV
Minister						
Part 3A						
Concept	29	15,963	13,660	29,623		\$12,780,619,630
Project	123	20,417	22,440	42,857		\$16,149,257,765
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	152	36,380	36,100	72,480		\$28,929,877,395
Part 3A Mod	12	2,500	12,457	14,957		\$2,594,414,000
Part 4	8	1	0	1		\$3,086,760
Part 4 Mod	14	23	0	23		\$14,885,858
Total	186	38,904	48,557	87,461		\$31,542,264,013
Department						
Part 3A						
Concept	1	0	0	0		\$0
Project	36	968	839	1,807		\$342,264,029
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	37	968	839	1,807		\$342,264,029
Part 3A Mod	165	246	541	787		\$129,331,706
Part 4	122	180	87	267		\$43,033,454
Part 4 Mod	171	276	80	356		\$681,240,181
Total	495	1,670	1,547	3,217		\$1,195,869,370
Planning Assessment Commission						
Part 3A						
Concept	1	550	600	1,150		\$120,000,000
Project	8	735	796	1,531		\$426,745,820
<i>Total Part 3A</i>	9	1,285	1,396	2,681		\$546,745,820
Part 3A Mod	0	0	0	0		\$0
Total	9	1,285	1,396	2,681		\$546,745,820
Grand total	690	41,859	51,500	93,359		\$33,284,879,203



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