OVERHAUL OF THE PLANNING SYSTEM HERALDS A NEW ERA IN NSW

Today the NSW Government has opened up the planning system to major reform, involving a complete overhaul – the biggest in thirty years.

“Today heralds a new era as we announce the overhaul of NSW planning legislation to be led by the Hon Tim Moore and the Hon Ron Dyer,” said Mr Hazzard.

“There was nothing more rotten than the way the former Government dealt with planning in NSW and the community is crying out for change – which the new Government will deliver.

“Today the NSW Government announces the review will be jointly chaired by Tim Moore, former Environment Minister and current Land and Environment Court Commissioner (who will take leave from the court during this period) and former Labor Minister Ron Dyer.

“This is the first comprehensive planning review in 31 years and we are ready for fresh ideas and consultation which will kick-start an era of integrity and transparency.

“It will ensure NSW residents and businesses get the certainty which will bring jobs and new housing.”

The review will also create a planning system that protects local communities from overdevelopment and conserves our environment.

The Review will take approximately 18 months and be divided into three stages:

• A listening and scoping stage – to identify the key outcomes and principles for a new planning system (4 months).

• The preparation of Green Paper – outlining options in regard to the future planning system and the basis of a legislative scheme (6 months).

• A White Paper – setting out the Government’s new framework for the NSW Planning System, including the draft legislation (8 months).

“A new era in planning will make NSW the number one state in Australia to do business – in a country that values its natural assets.”