MEDIA RELEASE

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EUROBODALLA LEP SIGNED OFF

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard, today confirmed that he has signed off on Eurobodalla’s new Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and it is likely to be formally gazetted in approximately 10 days.

“I am well aware that the Eurobodalla community has strong views in regard to the new Eurobodalla LEP and I have ensured that a balance has been struck,” said Minister Brad Hazzard.

“In certain agricultural areas the big issues of concern were the inclusion of E3 zonings and environmental overlays.

“I believe that outside of those areas there has been broad recognition the new LEP is needed to facilitate business and jobs.

“Striking the balance has been challenging.

“I have heard the message loud and clear from local Member Andrew Constance that the environmental zones and environmental overlays have caused a lot of anxiety with farmers.

“I understand the concerns about E3 zones but I believe there should be less concern about environmental overlays which are more of guide to indicate that there may be some environmental issues that need consideration.

“Accordingly I have approved an environmental plan for the Eurobodalla Shire that has had the E3 zones excised.

“I have however left in the environmental overlays for the time being.

“I will now await the outcome of the review under the chairmanship of Ian Armstrong (the former National Party leader).

“When I have access to his report I will further consider the issues regarding the E3 zonings and the environmental overlays and make a decision as to what amendments may need to be made in due course (if any) to the LEP.

“I thank the community, council and the local MP for undertaking a healthy debate on issues that are very important to the local community regarding the LEP,” Minister Hazzard said.

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