



Andrew Stoner MP
Deputy Premier

Andrew Constance MP
Member for Bega

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 13 March 2014

NSW GOVERNMENT BACKS EDEN WHARF EXTENSION

The NSW Government will provide up to \$3 million to support the extension of the Breakwater Wharf in the Port of Eden, Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner and Member for Bega Andrew Constance announced today in Eden.

Mr Stoner said the wharf extension could deliver a major boost to the local economy.

“The NSW Government is delivering infrastructure to the regions in order to better service our communities, create jobs and improve productivity,” Mr Stoner said.

“This wharf extension will allow the Port of Eden to accommodate more and larger cruise ships, as well as the possibility of vessels servicing industry needs.

“With the extension, cruise vessels will be able to berth alongside the wharf, disembarking passengers more comfortably than by tender, as is currently the case.

“The Australian Cruise Ship industry is growing at the order of some 20 per cent each year, and Carnival Australia alone expects to have 26 port calls per annum to Eden by 2018.

“With up to 2,000 cruise ship passengers potentially visiting Eden and the wider region on each visit, this could provide a significant economic boost to local restaurants, cafes and regional attractions on the Sapphire Coast,” Mr Stoner said.

Member for Bega Andrew Constance welcomed the \$3 million investment in local infrastructure.

“I am pleased to have the Deputy Premier here today to meet with local stakeholders about future infrastructure development in Eden, but more importantly to make an announcement that will have such a major impact on our local region,” Mr Constance said.

“The NSW Government’s support for the extension of the Breakwater Wharf in the Port of Eden reflects our support for the region and our commitment to growing the local economy.

“This commitment builds on the Government’s announcement in July last year to offer staggered discounts on navigation charges to vessels visiting Eden, in time for the 2013/14 cruise season.

“Last year I announced discounts on navigation service charges to provide further incentive for cruise ships to visit the Port of Eden and today’s announcement further builds on that.

“The discounts were offered at 100 per cent for the first four ship visits, 35 per cent from the fifth to 29th visits and a 50 per cent discount kicking-in at (and above) 30 visits by a single cruise ship company in a year.

“Based on the 70,000 gross tonne Pacific Jewel owned by Carnival Australia, the full Government discount equates to approximately \$40,000 for each vessel visit to Eden,” he said.

Mr Stoner said NSW Government funding for the Breakwater Wharf extension would be contingent on the success of a bid for Community Development Grant Program funding from the Commonwealth Government.

“Local stakeholders including Cruise Eden, the Eden Chamber of Commerce, Sapphire Coast Tourism and Bega Valley Shire Council have worked tirelessly over a number of years in support of the wharf extension, and Council has also committed \$2 million towards the project,” Mr Stoner said.

“The NSW Government is working closely with stakeholders on an application for up to \$10 million from the Commonwealth Government’s Community Development Grant Program to support delivery of the wharf extension.

“Should the application be successful, the new wharf extension will help to breathe new life into Eden and the wider region’s economy,” he said.

Media: Deputy Premier 9228 5209 – Minister Constance 6492 2056