MEDIA RELEASE

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WORK COMPLETE ON $1.2 MILLION HUME HIGHWAY REST AREA UPGRADE

Road users including heavy vehicle operators can now benefit from a major upgrade to facilities at the Blue Metal Hill Rest Area on the Hume Highway, 18 kilometres south of Holbrook.

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin said work under way since May on the $1.2 million project has been completed in time for the holiday season when travel volumes will increase on the highway.

“The major upgrade of this rest area was funded under the Australian Government Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program to encourage heavy vehicle drivers to comply with rest break requirements and reduce fatigue.

“The work has involved improving rest, toilet, shade, shelter and load checking facilities at the location which is around 46 kilometres north of Albury.

“Upgrades to toilet facilities have provided access for mobility impaired customers and improved water, power and sewage facilities.

“New lighting, footpaths, picnic tables and chairs at the rest area have been installed along with trees and vegetation to improve shade.”

Mr Aplin said the facilities have been specifically designed to provide respite for heavy vehicle drivers who are required to take adequate breaks during travel hours.

“The upgrade at Blue Metal Hill forms part of the NSW Government’s commitment to increase and improve rest areas on key freight routes,” Mr Aplin said.

Work will continue early next year to complete upgrades at two northbound rest areas on the Hume Highway at Milton, two kilometres south of Fairbairn Road and at Four Mile Creek, five kilometres north of Holbrook.

For more information on road and rest area improvement work in NSW visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au

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