INVESTIGATION DRILLING STARTS FOR SECOND GRAFTON BRIDGE

Roads and Maritime Services will carry out geotechnical investigations from April to June as part of early work on the second crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton, Clarence Nationals MP, Chris Gulaptis announced today.

Mr Gulaptis said the investigative drilling will provide important information for the design and build contract.

“You will see a barge with drilling machinery at various locations on the Clarence River,” he said.

“Drilling will take place in the river about 70 metres east of the existing Grafton Bridge.

The work involves drilling boreholes and taking samples from the river bed and on land along the project alignment.

“This work will take about eight weeks to complete, weather permitting, and access to and along the Clarence River will be maintained.

“Navigational aids will be in place and river users are asked to take care and obey all signs.”

Mr Gulaptis said the NSW Government has committed $185 million to delivering the second crossing, which will improve traffic flow between Grafton and South Grafton.

“Early work to improve the local road network to the second bridge started in February.

“A 200 metre stretch of the Gwydir Highway between the Pacific Highway and the roundabout at Bent Street is being duplicated, which will deliver immediate traffic benefits.

“This will improve traffic flow and ensure the future bridge fits into the local road network,” Mr Gulaptis said.

For more information on the project visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/graftonbridge.

Media contact: Chris Gulaptis – 0418 625 715