Woolgoolga to Ballina jobs and investment wave rolls on

- Contract awarded to upgrade 35km section of Pacific Highway between Glenugie and Tyndale
- Flow of work driving employment boom, supporting around 2,500 direct and 7,500 indirect jobs
- All contracts now awarded to deliver new and upgraded bridges for the section

The wave of North Coast roadbuilding jobs and investment is continuing, with another major contract awarded to deliver a section of the Pacific Highway upgrade between Woolgoolga and Ballina.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said a Seymour Whyte Limited—Ostwald Brothers joint venture would deliver a 35-kilometre section of the upgrade between Glenugie and Tyndale.

“Most of the road building, bridges, piling and concrete supply contracts have now been awarded for the 155-kilometre upgrade, keeping the project on track to open to traffic by 2020,” Mr Chester said.

New South Wales Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Melinda Pavey said the Pacific Highway upgrade was Australia’s largest regional road infrastructure project.

“Investment in this important connection between Sydney and Brisbane is producing thousands of jobs and adding billions of dollars to the New South Wales economy while improving the road experience for millions of motorists every year,” Mrs Pavey said.

Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan said the flow of contract awards was a boon for jobs.

“This pipeline of contract awards means there are about 2,500 direct jobs and 7,500 indirect jobs expected to be supported across the Woolgoolga to Ballina section by the middle of next year,” Mr Hogan said.

New South Wales Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis said the latest contract covered works between Tyndale and Maclean, the Richmond River and Ballina Bypass.

“All contracts have been awarded for the section’s bridges, including the 1.5-kilometre bridge over the Clarence River at Harwood and the 980-metre Broadwater Bridge over the Richmond River,” Mr Gulaptis said.

For more information about the project and to keep up to date, visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/northern-nsw/woolgoolga-to-ballina/index.html.

The upgrade is due to open by 2020 and is being funded by the Australian and New South Wales governments on an 80:20 basis.