MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW MAJOR HEAVY VEHICLE REST AREAS ON THE PRINCES HIGHWAY

Andrew Constance the Member for Bega today announced work has started on the first major heavy vehicle rest area to be built on the Princes Highway, as part of the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program.

"The heavy vehicle rest area is being built on the Princes Highway at Jerrawangala, two kilometres south of Sussex Inlet Road," Mr Constance said.

“When the roll out is completed, there will be five new major heavy vehicle rest areas on the Princes Highway between Kiama and the Victorian border, three in the southbound direction and two in the northbound direction.

"The sites have been identified as part of the RTA’s Strategy for Major Heavy Rest Areas in NSW in consultation with the heavy vehicle industry and in compliance with the National Transport Commission’s (NTC) Guidelines to provide major heavy vehicle rest areas within a maximum of 120 kilometres on key rural freight routes.

"Each of these will be strategically located to help heavy vehicle drivers manage fatigue," Mr Constance said.

“The rest areas will provide heavy vehicle drivers the opportunity to stop and rest in safe areas which provide modern facilities where they can rest or sleep and use toilet and picnic facilities.

“Work on the second rest area near Dummetts Lane is expected to start in mid 2011.

The remaining three sites - one near Broulee Road, seven kilometres south of Mogo, Malabar Creek, three kilometres north of Moruya and Christopher’s Road, 32 kilometres north of Bega are scheduled to start work in later in 2011, weather permitting, Mr Constance said.

A brochure is being distributed to stakeholders showing the locations of the five new major heavy vehicle rest areas or is available on the RTA’s website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au

These five rest area projects, totalling $8 million, are jointly funded by the NSW and Australian governments as part of the Heavy Vehicle Safety Productivity Program.