



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**Media Release**  
**7 September 2010**

**Sharon Grierson Welcomes 43<sup>rd</sup> Government of Australia**

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, today welcomed the decision of two of the three remaining independents to support the formation of a Gillard Labor Government.

"Mr Oakeshott and Mr Windsor's decision to endorse Julia Gillard as Prime Minister is good news for the nation, for regional Australia and for Newcastle," said Ms Grierson.

"This decision is a tribute to Julia Gillard's leadership and offers to the nation stable, effective and long-term government.

"It is a decision that supports the continuation Federal Labor's nation building agenda – an agenda Newcastle has gained considerable benefit from."

Building on the \$1.5 billion already invested into Newcastle under the Gillard Government, Ms Grierson said she will continue to pursue the "big picture" opportunities for Newcastle, including:

- Implementation of the \$100 million *Smart Grid, Smart City* energy efficiency initiative in Newcastle;
- Roll out of the National Broadband Network;
- High Speed Rail Study and the implications for improving the Newcastle-Sydney rail link; and
- Encouraging part of the revenue flow from mining back into the Region.

"All of these opportunities are 'game changers' for Newcastle's future, and I intend to address the implications, possibilities and the most effective ways of making them a reality during my new term representing Newcastle in the Federal Parliament," said Ms Grierson.

"I look forward to continuing to work hard for the people of Newcastle in a Gillard Labor Government."

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