



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**27 MAY 2008**

**NEWCASTLE A SPORTING CHANCE FOR WORLD CUP 2018**

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson today welcomed the NSW Government's \$20 million injection to finalise the upgrade of EnergyAustralia Stadium.

With the \$10 million provided by the Rudd Government in the recent Federal Budget, the funding will allow the upgrade of the Stadium to a world-class facility.

"The NSW Government should be congratulated for making the funds available to finalise the project," Ms Grierson said.

"This is a great outcome for EnergyAustralia Stadium, for our sporting teams and for all their fans."

"It's also a great boost for our regional economy, with an upgraded Stadium putting us in a position to bring bigger and better events to our region."

"The Prime Minister has flagged the Federal Government's support for a 2018 World Cup bid, and the upgrade will mean Newcastle now has a sporting chance of being a part of the biggest sporting event in the world."

"While sporting facilities are largely the responsibility of the State Government, I am pleased that the Federal Government was able to provide \$10 million towards this vital project."

"It is something I have lobbied hard for over the years, and it delivers on my election commitment to the people of Newcastle last year."

"I also pay tribute to Ted Atchison and the Hunter International Sports Centre Trust for their commitment to building the case and the community support for an upgraded Stadium."

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