



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**Media Release**  
**14 October 2008**

**HUNTER INFRASTRUCTURE SUBMISSION WELCOMED**

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson today welcomed the Hunter Infrastructure Alliance’s submission to Infrastructure Australia.

Ms Grierson said she strongly supported the Hunter submission, which recommends Infrastructure Australia invest in key projects in our region in the priority areas of port development, roads, rail and broadband.

“Investing in these projects would bring long-term economic benefits to the nation,” Ms Grierson said.

“I am pleased that the submission recognises that the Hunter region - one of the economic powerhouses of Australia - can only achieve its full potential if an integrated approach is taken to filling the infrastructure gaps.”

“Better strategic infrastructure planning and delivery of freight and passenger links is vital to keep people and goods moving efficiently around our region, our nation and the world.”

“We have the potential to maximise our contribution to the national economy by connecting our roads, rail, ports and airports and linking them to major freight and transport routes.”

“And after a Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme is introduced, local transport and freight solutions will be critical to maximising emissions efficiencies and competitive advantages.”

Infrastructure Australia is the new body established by the Federal Government to develop a strategic blueprint for our nation's future infrastructure needs and - in partnership with the states, territories, local government and the private sector - facilitate its implementation.

In light of today’s confirmation of the acceleration of the Government’s infrastructure funds, Ms Grierson said she was looking forward to the release of Infrastructure Australia’s priority infrastructure report by the end of the year.

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