



SENATOR THE HON MARK ARBIB

Minister for Employment Participation

JASON CLARE MP

Parliamentary Secretary for Employment

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

15 July 2009

\$1.7 million for jobs in North West/Northern Tasmania

The Minister for Employment Participation, Senator Mark Arbib, today announced a \$1.7 million investment in jobs in North West/Northern Tasmania.

Senator Arbib said the three projects would be funded as part of the Rudd Government's \$650 million Jobs Fund.

Burnie City Council will receive \$1.26 million for the *Waterfront Boardwalk* project linking West Park to the waterfront and CBD, generating up to 10 jobs.

Mersey Natural Resource Management Group Inc will receive \$267,000 for the *Weed to Assets Commercialisation* project, creating or retaining seven jobs.

George Town Council will receive \$150,000 for the *George Town Waste Management Centre* project creating or retaining up to six jobs. The project will also provide employees with nationally accredited waste management training and retraining.

"These projects will help to stimulate the economy here in North West/Northern Tasmania, one of the regions hardest hit by the global recession," Senator Arbib said.

"As part of the Rudd Government's Economic Stimulus Plan, these projects will create jobs and training opportunities for local workers, and lasting infrastructure for the community."

The funding is provided through the Local Jobs component of the Jobs Fund.

Parliamentary Secretary for Employment, Jason Clare, said the Local Jobs funding would deliver community-based infrastructure projects focused on promoting green technology, heritage and environment-friendly projects.

“For example, the Mersey Natural Resource Management Group project will remove feral trees from the community, turning them into timber items for sale,” Mr Clare said.

“The Mersey group has been trialling this enterprise for the past 12 months. The enterprise turns a resource management problem into an employment creation opportunity. It also has the added benefit of reducing carbon emissions.”

Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom said the *Waterfront Boardwalk* project would use local timber as part of a major precinct rejuvenation development.

“The project will involve building an extensive boardwalk featuring observation points for seating, shade and viewing the beautiful surrounds,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“The project was proposed by Burnie City Council to deliver immediate job opportunities, for a development that will add value to the community and broader region.”

Member for Bass Jodie Campbell said the *George Town Waste Management Centre* project would establish a fully integrated centre to provide waste minimisation services to municipal, commercial, industrial, construction and demolition sectors.

“The project will also provide environmental educational opportunities for school and community groups and sustainable employment for long term unemployed people,” Ms Campbell said.

More Jobs Fund projects will be announced in coming weeks and months. Further information will be available at www.deewr.gov.au as announcements are made.

Media Contact - Minister Arbib: Alison Hill 0407 570 640 Parliamentary Secretary Clare: Tim Quadrio 0401 976 269 DEEWR Media: media@deewr.gov.au Non-media queries: 1300 363 079