



MEDIA RELEASE

MARTIN FERGUSON

SID SIDEBOTTOM

Minister for Resources and Energy
Minister for Tourism

Member for Braddon

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TABLE CAPE LIGHTHOUSE BECOMES TOURISM BEACON

Table Cape Lighthouse is one step closer to fulfilling its potential as a tourism beacon for NorthWest Tasmania with today's official launch of the site's Australian Government-funded refurbishment by the Minister for Tourism, Martin Ferguson AM MP.

The project was announced in the 2008 Budget by Minister Ferguson and the Member for Braddon, Sid Sidebottom MP.

With funding of \$185,000, the Australian Government is supporting the work of the Waratah-Wynyard Council and the local community to fulfil this historic site's potential as a tourist attraction.

Minister Ferguson said: "It gives me great pleasure to see this will fund important upgrades to this wonderful building, the walking tracks around it, as well as signage and fencing. Importantly, marketing and promotional materials will also be paid for.

"The Government is very pleased to support regions and operators working together to improve their tourism potential. Tourism is an important component of the Australian economy, employing almost half a million people, often in regional and rural areas.

"I recently announced the Government will help tourism operators better position the Australian tourism industry in a highly competitive market with an \$8.5 million commitment to the TQUAL grants scheme, which will broaden the tourism product on offer and encourage tourism businesses to maximise the opportunities their regions present.

Mr Sidebottom said: "Tasmania's North West region is one of the most spectacular in Australia. By making attractions such as the Table Cape Lighthouse more accessible through improved walking paths and more informative through better signage, it becomes yet another in a long list of reasons to visit this incredible region and stay an extra day or so.

"As the State that really pioneered the fly—drive holiday, Tasmanians know this fact better than most. If you give tourists a reason to stay with great attractions they will stay."

"With attractions such as the Table Cape Lighthouse, tourists in NorthWest Tasmania have another reason to stay a little bit longer."

Media contact: Michael Bradley (Ferguson) – 0420 371 744
Eliza Young (Sidebottom) – 0439 342 159