



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

NEW JOBS AND NEW BUSES FOR NSW

Monday 2 March 2009

NSW Transport Minister David Campbell today turned the first sod for a new \$18 million bus building plant that will create around 250 jobs in the Hunter and deliver state-of-the-art buses for Sydney.

Mr Campbell said the Government expedited the delivery of 150 articulated buses when it awarded a \$112 million contract to Volgren and Volvo in December.

“Today marks the start of that delivery,” Mr Campbell said.

“This bus building plant will be a boost for the Hunter and means delivery can be cut in half from three years to just 18 months.

“Work on building the buses will begin straight away at a temporary factory while the new plant is constructed.

“The Volvo chassis for the buses will be imported from Europe, with the body designed, engineered and built by Volgren in Tomago.

“The 150 bendy buses will be a significant addition to State Transit’s fleet and will be put into service on some of the busiest road corridors in central Sydney and outer metropolitan suburbs.

“These buses will start rolling out of the plant by late 2010, with full delivery to commuters by mid 2011.”

Minister for the Hunter Jodi McKay said today’s milestone is proof of the Rees Government’s commitment to delivering more employment and transport options for the people of NSW.

“This new plant is great news and will keep industry in the Hunter on the move,” Ms McKay said.

“Our region has a proud history of building transport infrastructure and buses, as well as train carriages, and I’m pleased to see this continuing.

“With the potential to create up to 250 new jobs and increase the supply of skilled workers in the region, this plant will give an important boost to the NSW economy as well as the Hunter community.”

Mr Campbell said the Government has also announced an additional 300 buses for Sydney which will assist in meeting continued growth in patronage.

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