

RDA Update – 2 July, 2015

Presented by:
Cr Greg Jones
RDA Townsville and North West Queensland
Committee Member

Quick Update

- ❖ Recent Highlights
- ❖ National Stronger Regions Fund
- ❖ Developing Northern Australia



Recent Highlights

- Input to White Paper and discussions on Developing Northern Australia
 - Northern RDA Alliance collaboration and joint voice
 - Frequent communication with the White Paper Taskforce in PM&C
 - Advocacy meetings with Senators, MPs
- Leading project work – e.g. Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan work across 25+ Councils, 8 RRTGs, 5 RDAs ++
- Support role to projects – e.g. Our Chairman Paul Woodhouse has been on the NQ Irrigated Agricultural Strategy leadership group to develop the Flinders and Gilbert area; we support TEL and MITEZ work on energy
- On-going facilitation and advocacy work – ensuring regional voice on issues
 - Eg Input to Government Enquiries relating to priorities – Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, Defence White Paper, Resources Q

NSRF

- Under Round 1 of the NSRF, 3 projects from the region were successful. Out of 407 applications nationwide, 51 applicants were successful with 7 of these in Queensland. The successful projects are:
 - Mount Isa City Council \$2.5 million for upgrade of Stage 2A Sewer Augmentation
 - Burke Shire Council \$160,000 for construction of a Pontoon Wharf in Burketown
 - Charters Towers Regional Council \$8.69 million for upgrade to water infrastructure
- **Round 2 closes on 31 July**
 - Up to 2 applications per eligible applicant

Funding Round	# of successful projects across all 55 RDA regions	Townsville and North West Queensland RDA Region Projects	\$ Funded
RDAF 1	35	Townsville CC	\$4.79 Million
RDAF 2	46	Act for Kids	\$3.4 Million
RDAF 3	50	Palm Island ASC	\$0.5 Million
RDAF 3	50	Hinchinbrook CSC	\$0.5 Million
RDAF 4	20*	Tec-NQ	\$2 Million
NSRF 1	51	Mount Isa City Council	\$2.5 Million
NSRF 1	51	Burke Shire Council	\$0.16 Million
NSRF 1	51	Charters Towers RC	\$8.69 Million
5 Rounds	202*	8	\$22.5 Million

* Approximate

White Paper on Developing Northern Australia Policy Direction Goals

- 1. Simpler land arrangements to support investment**
- 2. Developing the north's water resources**
- 3. Our business, trade and investment gateway**
- 4. Infrastructure to support growth**
- 5. A northern workforce for growth**
- 6. Good governance for northern Australia**

White Paper on Developing Northern Australia - Action Summary - Infrastructure

- \$600 million for priority road projects in northern Australia including consideration of the Great Northern Highway, Arnhem Highway, Flinders Highway, Barkly Highway, Hann Highway, the Outback Way and the Tanami Road.
- \$100 million to improve cattle supply chains through a northern Australia beef roads fund; using CSIRO modelling and livestock transport and beef industry experts to identify investment and deregulation priorities.
- \$5 million for analyses of freight rail projects in northern Australia, with an initial focus on a pre-feasibility study, including a high level cost benefit analysis, of the proposed Mount Isa to Tennant Creek railway.
- \$39.6 million to upgrade airstrips and subsidise air services in remote Australia.

White Paper on Developing Northern Australia - Action Summary - Infrastructure

- \$5 billion in concessional loans for projects through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility.
- \$3.7 million to develop an infrastructure pipeline with the jurisdictions to provide investors information on potential infrastructure needs so more can be built sooner and cheaper.
- Establish a business stakeholder group to develop a plan for improving aviation and surface transport connections in northern Australia.
- \$75 million for a new Cooperative Research Centre on Developing Northern Australia located in the north, with an initial focus on agriculture, food and tropical health.

Thank you

For more information
Glenys Schuntner
Chief Executive Officer
07 4410 3655; info@rdanwq.org.au