



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### CHAFFEY DAM UPGRADE FUNDING GREAT NEWS

Independent Federal Member for New England, Tony Windsor, is delighted with the announcement of funding for an upgrade of Chaffey Dam and is certain that the Federal Government will agree to its contribution towards increasing Tamworth's water supply.

Mr Windsor was responding to the announcement by the State Member for Tamworth, Mr Peter Draper, MP, and Cr Phil Betts, Chairman of the Chaffey Dam Upgrade Community Reference Panel which made recommendations to the State and Federal Governments.

The Reference Panel's recommendation is that each of the beneficiaries make a contribution towards the cost of the augmentation with the Commonwealth to contribute \$6.545 million, the NSW Government \$4.697 million with Tamworth Regional Council and other water users to make up the balance.

This amount would be on top of the \$13.5m safety upgrade to Chaffey Dam that would be paid for by the NSW Government.

"This is great news for Tamworth," Mr Windsor said.

"Congratulations are due to Cr Phil Betts and his Committee and Peter Draper for their tireless efforts on this issue."

"I'm certain the Commonwealth will respond in a positive fashion when they receive the Reference Panel's recommendations, particularly given Deputy Prime Minister, Mark Vaile's, comments of support when in Tamworth during January and subsequent media comments."

"Concerns have been raised about the Prime Minister's Water Plan and the possible ramifications for new dams or dam capacity enhancements but Mark Vaile's recent comments have overcome these concerns," Mr Windsor said.

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