



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TONY WINDSOR MP
INDEPENDENT
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Shop 5
259 Peel Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

All Mail: PO Box 963
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Ph: (02) 6761 3080

Toll Free: 1300 301 839

Fax: (02) 6761 3380

e-mail: Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au

Web Page: www.tonywindsor.com.au

Media Release

24 February 2009

Exceptional Circumstance roll over – are you affected?

With the announcement of Exceptional Circumstances assistance for farmers and small business either continuing or ceasing being announced by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Tony Burke last week, the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor is seeking feedback from those affected if they believe they are still facing circumstances that should still see them eligible for such assistance.

Mr Windsor said that the Northern Tablelands Small Areas Revised and the Central North North-West Northern New England Revision area have been continued as eligible for EC Assistance until 15 June 2009 whilst the Northern Tablelands Small Areas will cease on 31 March 2009 as will the Northern New England area.

The Northern Tablelands Small Areas Revised EC declared area includes that part of Division D of the former Northern New England Rural Land Protection Board (RLPB) with a southern boundary that is formed by the Tingha Road (the road from Inverell to Guyra) to where it joins with the Moredon Road then along the Maybole Road to Grahams Valley Road, joining the New England Highway.

The Northern Tablelands Small Areas EC declared area covers those parts of Armidale and Northern New England Rural Land Protection Board (RLPB) Districts not previously EC declared. These include: Division B of the Armidale RLPB; and Division D of the Northern New England RLPB.

The Northern New England EC declared area covers RLBP Division A south of the Bruxner Highway, part of Division B and the whole of Division C. (Note: RLBP boundaries were redefined by NSW in 2005 and this area is equivalent to the old Divisions B, C, F, G and H of the Northern New England RLPB, as well as Division A south of the Bruxner Highway.)

The Central North North-West Northern New England Revision area covers part of Division B and part of Division D of the Northern New England former Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB) District.

“I would like to hear from farmers and small business owners who believe they have not been fairly treated under the Exceptional Circumstances announcement by the Minister so that I can draw your circumstances to his attention.

There is an appeal process which is open to those who believe they have a case for their continuing to receive Exceptional Circumstance assistance and I would encourage people not to self assess but to contact me by email Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au, Fax 6761 3380 or mail to PO Box 963 Tamworth NSW 2340,” Mr Windsor said.

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080 or 0427 66 8868