



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Congratulations Glen Innes Severn Community effort saves Ag Research Station

The community of Glen Innes Severn has been congratulated for its united effort in saving the Glen Innes Agricultural Research and Advisory Station by the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor.

Mr Windsor is delighted that the NSW Minister for Agriculture, the Hon Ian Macdonald has announced that the Station will continue to provide high quality research facilities and programs to help keep Australian agricultural practices at the leading edge.

“From the day the Minister announced his intention to close the Agricultural Research and Advisory Station at Glen Innes, the community swung into action.

It’s a real credit to the leadership of the Glen Innes Severn Council who moved quickly to put together a working group to develop a strategy and plan to keep the Station operating.

I particularly congratulate, Mayor Steve Toms, Deputy Mayor Col Price and the Working Party members who drove the process with logic and passion.

When combined with the support of Richard Torbay, the local State MP, there was no way that the NSW Minister could close it down,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor believes that the process will also be of great help to secure future research opportunities for the Station.

“The final document developed by the Working Group and presented to the Minister has focussed minds on not only existing research programs but it will now provide the Station with a very valuable marketing tool to attract other research opportunities.

It has identified the capabilities of the Station and now with security of tenure, the Station can go out to potential research partners to offer its services.

It will certainly give me as the Federal Member, the ability to approach the Federal Ministers for Agriculture and Climate Change to promote the Station’s capacity to undertake federally funded research that will further ensure the future of the Station as the Minister for Agriculture has previously indicated.

The securing of the Station is the wake up – its securing of new research programs will ensure its longevity,” Mr Windsor said.

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