



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](mailto:Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au)

**Web Page:** [www.tonywindsor.com.au](http://www.tonywindsor.com.au)

## Media Release

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# Hard work for Chaffey Dam recognised

The Federal funding of nearly \$17m for the augmentation of Chaffey Dam from 62 gegalitres to 100 gegalitres that has been announced today by the Minister for Water Senator Penny Wong has delighted the Independent Member for New England Tony Windsor.

Mr Windsor says that it is the result of much hard work from a many people.

“The Chaffey Dam funding announcement is fantastic news.

“It’s the culmination of a lot of negotiations and hard work by many people over a long period of time.

“I congratulate and thank Bruce Brown, the Chair of the Chaffey Dam working group and other members of the working group who have remained committed to the process.

“Peter Draper, the Member for Tamworth has worked tirelessly in negotiating with NSW Government Ministers and their representatives.

“I also recognise the Tamworth Regional Council for their commitment to the project,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor paid tribute to the Federal Minister for Water Penny Wong for making this commitment.

“I have had a number of private discussions with Penny Wong in which I raised the Chaffey Dam augmentation and I have raised in the Parliament and with various ministers the re-engineering works needing to be done to the Menindee Lakes.

“The \$300m being made available through the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure program is freeing up water under the Murray Daring Basin Cap and providing funding for Chaffey Dam as well as the Menindee Lakes works.

“The Minister has said all along that when the Peel Water Sharing Plan had been agreed to and the environmental process gone through, that the Federal money would be there and she has been good to her word.

“It is an excellent outcome and one that will secure Tamworth and districts water supply for town and rural use.

“I thank Minister Penny Wong and her staff for their effort and consideration they have given the people of Tamworth as well as, of course, the final decision.

“I would also recognise the efforts of former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd for his assistance in pursuing this matter,” Mr Windsor said.

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