MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 1 March 2013

DRAFT PLAN FOR ROOKWOOD CEMETERY RELEASED

The draft plan to manage Rookwood Cemetery has been released today and the community is encouraged to comment, Minister for Primary Industries Katrina Hodgkinson said.

“This is the next step of the NSW Government’s most significant cemeteries reforms in over 100 years,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

The plan seeks to ensure:

- the use of burial resources is sustainable;
- environmental impacts are managed;
- heritage values are protected;
- the operation and functionality of the cemetery is enhanced; and
- the visual appeal of the cemetery is improved.

“The plan has been developed with the involvement of all the former denominational trusts at Rookwood Cemetery, the new Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust, the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust and other stakeholders,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“I am now seeking comment on the draft plan from the broader community before it is adopted.”

The historic Rookwood Necropolis cemetery has serviced the people of Sydney and NSW since 1867 and is the largest multicultural necropolis in the Southern Hemisphere.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is committed to ensuring burial needs are met now and in the future, and that no faith is disadvantaged,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

The draft plan of Management will be advertised for six weeks commencing 1 March 2013.

Copies of the plan can be viewed at: www.rookwood.nsw.gov.au

Submissions should be made by 12 April 2013 via email: pom@rnt.nsw.gov.au or phone: (02) 9746 8433 or mail to: Draft Rookwood Necropolis Plan of Management, PO Box 2059, Homebush West, NSW 2140.

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