Thursday 15 August 2013

WORK STARTS ON COFFS EASTERN BREAKWATER RENEWAL

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services Andrew Stoner today announced the commencement of works for the $14 million renewal of the Eastern Breakwater at Coffs Harbour.

Mr Stoner said the work would involve making some 2,000 concrete amour units, called hanbars, and placing them on the ocean side of the wall.

“The smallest 16 tonne units will be placed at the toe of the breakwall. The majority of the units are 22 tonnes and cover most of the wall, and largest 28 tonne units will be placed along the crest.

“The project is expected to be completed within 18 months, subject to weather conditions and the job is designed to last for 50 years, protecting over $150 million of assets in the harbour.”

Member for Coffs Harbour Andrew Fraser said the works would bring economic benefits to the Coffs economy, with local Company F M Glenn awarded the initial contract to manufacture the 600 hanbars currently on site.

“The works contractor, JDS Group, is an Australian-owned company and will engage significant local business and labour for the job, including:

- quarries to supply the estimated 40,000 tonnes of hard rock needed for the harbourside repairs to the wall and construction of a temporary road
- concrete companies to supply some 40,500 tonnes of ready-mixed concrete used to make the hanbars; and
- sub-contractors to cast the hanbar units and pour the concrete crest that will finish the work.

“The wide paved crest will provide improved access for fishermen and sightseers but the view may be filtered by the hanbars at some locations on the breakwall most vulnerable to storm wave attack and overtopping,” Mr Fraser said.

“The site has been secured with fencing to protect the public but people will still be able to access most of foreshore, including the boat ramp, during the works.

“At completion, the fence will be removed and the area landscaped with inclusion of interpretative displays of the site’s Aboriginal and European heritage.”
Media: Deputy Premier (Blake Hardy 0413 378 770)
Andrew Fraser 0427 241 522