MINISTER SUPPORTS LAKE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

NSW Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, was joined by Member for Wollongong, Noreen Hay, to open the Lake Illawarra Authority’s Wetland Education Centre on Northcliffe Drive at Warrawong.

“This new facility will be used to better educate school students and other members of the community on what is needed to protect waterways like Lake Illawarra,” the Minister said.

“The Lake Illawarra Authority has entered into an agreement with Futureworld, a local not-for-profit organisation, to deliver an education program about the lake to local schools.”

The Education Centre is located within a multi-purpose building progressively developed by the Authority.

More than a decade ago, the Lake Illawarra Authority recognised the need to construct new public amenities and change rooms for local sporting clubs, as well as a workshop for lake maintenance activities.

Chairman, Doug Prosser, said a second floor was subsequently proposed so the Authority could continue its ongoing role educating the region’s youth about the lake.

“The Authority accessed a range of funding programs to complete it and even gave local TAFE students the opportunity to be involved as part of their practical work,” Mr Prosser said.

Member for Wollongong, Noreen Hay, welcomed the facility as another great example of innovation and cooperation between Wollongong and Shellharbour Councils and the NSW Government.

“I have always been happy to support the Lake Illawarra Authority in seeking funds for improvement works,” Ms Hay said.

“A shared purpose facility was a great idea to increase awareness about how to prevent the lake from deteriorating.

“The bonus is the facility incorporates the latest energy saving technology allowing it to put power back into the local electricity supply grid.”