

Russell Northe

Member for Morwell

Community Newsletter



NOVEMBER 2010

Local projects to be funded by Russell Northe in a Coalition Government

- 24/7 Churchill police station
- Completion of Gippsland Plains Rail Trail
- Morwell to Traralgon bike path study
- Resurfacing of Traralgon Tennis Courts
- Upgrade of Hazelwood Pondage amenities
- Re-establish Traralgon Nightrider Bus Service
- New Garage for Morwell SES vehicle
- Improved lighting for Gaskin Park Reserve Churchill
- Upgrade Cowwarr Hall & CFA
- Redevelop Glengarry tennis/netball courts
- Upgrade Glengarry Hall
- New Yinnar Skate Park
- Redevelop Tyers Soccer Club rooms
- Town beautification works for Toongabbie
- New lighting for Traralgon South Primary School
- Redevelop the Yallourn North Town Reserve facilities



COALITION TO INVEST IN LONG-TERM JOB SECURITY FOR THE LATROBE VALLEY

A Victorian Liberal Nationals Coalition Government will invest \$5 million to develop and implement a Latrobe Valley industry and employment roadmap to build long-term job security and growth.

Nationals Member for Morwell Russell Northe joined with Leader of the Nationals Peter Ryan in Hazelwood to announce funding through the Coalition's \$1 billion Regional Growth Fund for the Latrobe Valley Industry and Employment Roadmap.

"The Coalition's \$5 million funding commitment will build on the \$25 million Latrobe Valley Advantage Fund to deliver a clear and achievable plan for new industry and greater investment and secure long-term employment for the Latrobe Valley," Mr Northe said.

"The Latrobe Valley has a highly skilled workforce that we will assist and expand by identifying more opportunities for new industry, leveraging more investment locally and investing in new technology to make local coal industries cleaner and more sustainable.

"The roadmap will sharpen the focus of the Latrobe Valley Advantage Fund to ensure that we have a strategic approach to developing new skills, attracting new industries and developing new technologies to reduce carbon emissions.

"Developing a roadmap will involve a comprehensive social - economic impact study of any future move to phase out Hazelwood Power Station so that we can have an accurate picture of the affect

on local jobs, businesses, local economies as well as the cost to the consumer.

"It will investigate new industries and investment opportunities that match local skills with potential new industry, and will be developed in cooperation with workers, local industry, power generators, unions and the broader community.

Mr Northe said Labor's plan to shut down Hazelwood Power Station had placed enormous strain on local families because there was no real plan to protect local jobs.

"Local families need confidence that their jobs will be protected for the long term.

"I will fight to protect local jobs and make sure we have a clear plan to provide skilled employment opportunities in the Latrobe Valley for the future."



STAMP DUTY CUTS GREAT NEWS FOR FIRST HOME BUYERS

First home buyers in the Morwell Electorate have received a huge boost through Coalition plans to cut stamp duty, Nationals Member for Morwell Russell Northe said this week.

Mr Northe said the Coalition, if in government after Saturday, would slash stamp duty for eligible first home buyers by 50 per cent on principal place of residence homes.

"This will be a huge boost for people looking to buy their first home. Under Labor the cost of housing has reached a frightening level, making it extremely difficult for first home buyers in particular to enter the market.

"The current high stamp duty tax regime is making housing right across the board more unaffordable. Victorian home buyers deserve a better deal," he said.

Mr Northe said the current shortage of land developed for housing in the Latrobe Valley has made the established housing market fiercely competitive, and high stamp duty costs are limiting options for many potential home buyers.

"Without the option of building, purchasing an already established house is proving to be a costly exercise for first home buyers, of which excessive stamp duty is a huge factor.

"Reducing the costs associated with purchasing a house will assist many of our young people by providing a wider range of affordable properties within the housing market."

Mr Northe said that under the Coalition plan, the 50 per cent cut in stamp duty would be phased in over the first term of government, starting with a 20 per cent cut from July next year.

"It will represent a major saving for first home buyers, and for many, it will be the difference in being able to make that successful bid. The current high tax regime of Labor is effectively locking many of these people out of entering the market," he said.

Mr Northe said that the existing first home buyers grant and bonuses for new homes would be maintained by the Coalition.



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