

MEDIA RELEASE



4 March 2009

25 National Circuit
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MORE TRUCK REST AREAS ON THE WAY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Australia's peak trucking industry body, the Australian Trucking Association, has welcomed the Australian and South Australian governments' decision to fund 13 truck rest areas between Adelaide and Port Augusta.

The decision will result in the construction five new rest areas, with another eight undergoing significant upgrades.

The Australian Government is contributing \$4.5 million to the \$9 million cost of the rest areas from its Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program, which it established last year.

The Chairman of the Australian Trucking Association, Trevor Martyn, said the announcement was an important step in making the roads a safer place for all motorists, as well as a better place to work for truck drivers.

"Fatigue is a major cause of truck accidents in Australia, and at this stage there are simply not enough rest areas for drivers to stop and take a break. This announcement is an important step towards making the roads safer," Mr Martyn said.

"These 13 truck rest areas are the first of up to 250 that the Rudd Government will build across the country as part of its Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program.

"The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Anthony Albanese, set up the program last year after listening to the concerns the ATA raised.

"The Government is only able to go ahead with these new rest areas because of the increase in heavy vehicle charges that occurred last year.

"These new rest areas are the industry's dividend for the extra charges that we are paying.

"We are particularly pleased that the focus of the new rest areas is on locations within 500 kilometres of Adelaide.

"New research from Australia's leading truck insurer, NTI, shows the vast majority of fatigue related accidents (89.3 per cent) occur on outbound journeys within 500 kilometres of the point of departure, often a major city like Adelaide.

"Truck drivers need more rest areas within this 500 kilometre radius, so they can easily find a place to stop and cool down after the teeth-grinding frustration of getting loaded and getting through city traffic. The Australian and South Australian governments have delivered on this important new research," Mr Martyn said.

The list of South Australian rest areas to be funded under the program is attached. For more information about the NTI research, go to www.nti.com.au

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National Voice of the Australian Trucking Industry

REST AREA LOCATIONS:

Location	Proposal
<u>North bound (To Pt Augusta)</u>	
6km north of Port Wakefield (MM211)	Upgrade Minor Rest Area to make available to heavy vehicles (sealing, new fencing, shelters and bins)
13 km south Redhill (MM 153)	New Truck Parking Bay
7 km south Crystal Brook (MM 121.02)	Upgrade existing Truck Parking Bay to a Minor Rest Area (only signing changes required)
8 km south Warnertown (MM 99.7)	New Truck Parking Bay
72 km south Pt Augusta (MM 72.05)	Upgrade Existing Minor Rest Area (sealing of unsealed areas)
<u>South bound (To Adelaide)</u>	
73km south of Port Augusta (MM 73)	Upgrade to existing Minor Rest Area (sealing)
Near Crystal Brook (MM 113)	New Minor Rest Area
5 km south of Redhill (MM145.5)	New Minor Rest Area
6km north of Snowtown (MM160.7)	Upgrade Minor Rest Area to make available to heavy vehicles
3km south of Lochiel (MM185.9)	Upgrade Minor Rest Area to make available to heavy vehicles
7km south of Lochiel (MM188.5)	Upgrade truck parking bay to include shelters, tables and fencing
Dublin (MM 247.1)	Upgrade Existing Truck Parking Bay
Virginia (MM 278.5)	New Truck Parking Bay
<i>Various locations</i>	General improvements to Rest Area route signing and other general amenity improvements