



Warren Truss Deputy Prime Minister Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development

Rowan Ramsey

Federal Member for Grey

Joint Media Statement

8 January 2016

APY Lands Main Access Road upgrade – contract awarded for pavement crushing

THE CONTRACT to crush pavement material for the first section of the main access road upgrade in South Australia's Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands has been awarded to Lucas Total Contract Solutions.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss said the works will include raising 450 000 tonnes of pavement material for upgrade works on the 43 kilometre section between Pukatja and Umuwa in the APY lands.

"The works are contributing to the upgrade of 210 kilometres of the main access road and 21 kilometres of community access roads between the Stuart Highway and Pukatja (Ernabella) in the APY Lands," Mr Truss said.

"This project aims to improve living standards of the local Anangu people by providing better access to essential services and facilities, along with reduced travel times and vehicle operating costs."

Acting South Australian Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Susan Close said the local community will further benefit from the work with a commitment by the Government in consultation with the APY Executive Board to ensure 30 per cent of the total onsite labour hours are undertaken by local Anangu.

"Anangu will benefit from enhanced access to employment and training opportunities throughout the life of the project," Mr Mullighan said.

Federal Member for Grey Rowan Ramsey said Lucas Total Contract Solutions has a good track record for training and providing employment opportunities for the local Anangu.

"These pavement crushing works are expected to commence in February 2016 and be completed in August 2016, weather permitting," Mr Ramsey said.

South Australian Member for Giles Eddie Hughes said the project would provide a welcome boost to the Anangu community.

"Lucas TCS is currently completing works on the road between Indulkana and the Stuart Highway with up to 45 percent of Aboriginal workers, in particular local Anangu," he said.

The Australian Government will contribute \$85 million towards the total \$106.25 million cost of the five-year upgrade of the entire 210 kilometres of main access road, with the remaining \$21.25 million being provided by the South Australia Government.

Further information on the APY Lands Main Access Road Upgrade Project can be found at <u>www.dpti.sa.gov.au/apylands</u>.

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