



# **The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP**

## **Minister for Primary Industries**

## **Minister for Small Business**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Wednesday 9 April 2014

#### **LEADERS OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES MEET IN DUBBO**

NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, and Member for Dubbo and Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources, Troy Grant, today welcomed the new Local Land Services board members at an induction in Dubbo.

Ms Hodgkinson said now that the elections are finalised it is an opportune time to hold the induction for elected and appointed board members.

“This Friday marks 100 days since Local Land Services began and already farmers, land managers and other members of the community are noticing an improvement in the standard of regional service delivery,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“Bringing the elected and appointed board members and 11 regional Chairs together in one location will ensure we form a strong and cohesive organisation which will deliver on the NSW Liberal and Nationals’ vision for Local Land Services.

“It was important to wait until after the inaugural elections to hold this induction program so that both appointed and elected board members could meet together.

“All of our board members now have a job ahead of them to develop a strong collective vision, using the skills and experience which earned them these important positions, to deliver valued services to their regions.”

Mr Grant said the fact the induction is being held in Dubbo is representative of the fact that Local Land Services is firmly entrenched in regional NSW.

“This new organisation – which has merged the former Catchment Management Authorities, Livestock Health and Pest Authorities and some Department of Primary Industries agricultural advisory services – is decentralisation in action,” he said.

“This NSW Liberal and Nationals Government is committed to supporting rural and regional NSW and Local Land Services will ensure a better standard of regional service delivery after years of neglect from Labor.”

Chair of the Local Land Services Board of Chairs, John Macarthur-Stanham, said the new organisation will deliver on its promise to provide services which are valued by its customers.

“Local Land Services has been designed in a way to ensure consistent backroom processes which allow boards and staff to get on with the job of developing and delivering innovative solutions to regional issues,” Mr Macarthur-Stanham said.

“This two-day induction provides an ideal opportunity to share the NSW Government’s vision for Local Land Services and the governance and accountability standards which are expected of the new board members.

“Board members will receive briefings on the four pillars of Local Land Services – biosecurity, natural resource management, agricultural advisory services and emergency management.

“The induction agenda will also cover a range of governance matters, risks and key policy issues for Local Land Services.”