

MEDIA RELEASE – 15 January 2016

RDA encourages investment in local infrastructure

Councils and not-for-profit organisations are being encouraged to apply for grant funding of up to \$10 million dollars for infrastructure projects.

Applications for Round 3 of the Australian Government’s National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF) open today (15 January 2016).

Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland (RDA) Committee Chairman Mr Paul Woodhouse said the program provides a great opportunity for regional communities to identify their own priority projects to create economic development opportunities and address disadvantages.

“In the last two rounds, seven applicants in our region shared in more than 11 million dollars for their projects, which included upgrades to water infrastructure in Charters Towers, Mount Isa and on Palm Island and the development of the Doomadgee to Burektown Fibre Link to improve communications infrastructure,” Mr Woodhouse said.

“These infrastructure projects provide a much needed boost to the region’s economy, creating short term jobs during construction and supporting future economic and population growth to create sustainable communities.”

RDA Chief Executive Officer Glenys Schuntner said there are many channels through which more information and advice can be sought. The first place to visit is the www.rdanwq.org.au site from where all other information can be accessed.

RDA also provides advice to applicants on how to prepare a competitive application and letters of support.

“RDA will be holding workshops on the NSRF guidelines and how to build a stronger application, in Townsville on Friday 5 February from 10am to 12pm and in Mount Isa on Tuesday 9 February from 10am to 12pm,” Ms Schuntner said.

“Applicants can register for our regional RDA workshops through Townsville Tickets.”

For further information on the RDA workshops, log on to www.rdanwq.org.au

Round 3 applicants can also take part in teleconferences on 27, 28 and 29 January with the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development by registering online at <http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/NSRF>

Applications close 5pm on 15 March 2016.

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