



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **GETTING ON WITH THE JOB: NORTH WEST RAIL LINK PROGRESS CONTINUES**

A total of 15 major tenders and 25 contracts have been awarded for a variety of works on the North West Rail Link as international interest in the multi-billion dollar infrastructure project gathers steam, NSW Premier and Minister for Western Sydney Barry O'Farrell and Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian said today.

"The NSW Government is getting on with the job of building the biggest transport infrastructure project since the Sydney Harbour Bridge," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The North West Rail Link was a key election commitment and we're making real progress," he said.

"The tenders and contracts awarded for major technical and professional services include planning approvals, noise and vibration expertise and land survey work.

"The interest from international firms shows this is a world class infrastructure project, and reflects the NSW Government's determination to deliver the best outcome for the local community," he said.

Ms Berejiklian said the NSW Government had held more than 40 sessions with organisations including tunnel contractors, civil contractors, financial institutions, railway and systems specialists.

"There has been significant international interest in this major infrastructure project from East Asia, North America and Europe, in addition to Australian organisations and contractors," Ms Berejiklian said.

"Industry has embraced the engagement process and provided the project team with valuable feedback and suggestions on the project.

"Substantial geotechnical and survey work is also continuing right along the 23km alignment of the North West Rail Link between Epping and beyond Rouse Hill.

"These geotechnical investigations confirm the 15km of tunnelling between Epping and Bella Vista will be predominately in Sydney Sandstone and shale – conditions which are conducive for effective tunnel construction," she said.

The first of two Environmental Impact Statements will be released for public comment in April.