



MINISTER FOR THE HUNTER

MEDIA RELEASE

STADIUM CONSTRUCTION TEAM READY TO ROLL

27th June 2003

Minister for the Hunter Michael Costa and the Hunter International Sports Centre Trust today announced the project team brought together to turn EnergyAustralia Stadium into a world-class sports and entertainment facility.

The team will be headed up by the Incoll Group who will act as Project Manager for the Eastern grandstand and also include four Hunter-based companies.

"This new team brings a wide range of skill, knowledge and experience in major infrastructure design and construction to the project," Mr Costa said.

"Companies on this team have been involved in building some of the most recognisable sports stadia in the country including Sydney's Aussie Stadium.

"It's good to see local companies heavily represented on the team to transform this out-dated complex into something special for the Hunter Region."

ARUP has been appointed structural engineers and TBH will coordinate time and risk management.

Hunter companies Cox Killen + Doren, Marline Newcastle, GHD and Rider Hunt have also won roles in the design and management of the construction.

There will be further opportunity for local companies to become involved in the project later this year when construction contracts are awarded.

Chairman of the Hunter ISC Trust Ted Atchison said today's announcement was a real milestone in the redevelopment of the stadium.

"The \$23.6 million from the State Government is in the bank," Mr Atchison said.

"With the team now on board we can move quickly to finalise the designs for approval and construction.

"We've been working with architects and engineers for some time but I can't wait for work to finally start.

“There are some constraints on time and money but the Trust remains confident of delivering the first stage of the project on time and on budget.”

Mr Costa has also re-affirmed his call for the Federal Government to provide its share of the funds for the full redevelopment of the complex.

“While I’m happy work will start later this year its disappointing to note the Commonwealth still has not committed to the project.

“This ground won’t be the facility the region deserves unless the Federal Government comes up with the rest of the \$44 million needed to do the whole job.

“I will continue to push them to give the community what it deserves.”

Contacts:	Minister’s Office: Scott Keenan	0419 466 512
	Hunter ISC Trust: Ted Atchison	0418 671 078