

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

Scully announces \$300,000 to seal Stage One of Topdale Rd

June 4 2004

The NSW Minister for Roads Carl Scully, has announced \$300,000 in funding to seal a critical section of Topdale Rd after a concerted campaign by residents and Member for Tamworth Peter Draper.

Mr Scully announced the funding in State Parliament yesterday after inspecting the road on May 21 and meeting dozens of concerned local residents, log hauliers, bus operators and road users.

The funding will be enough to seal one kilometre of the 11km road which means the two families most affected by the dust nuisance will be given a welcome reprieve.

"The announcement is gratifying news for the families of Graeme Brazel and Dale Brazel who have put up with blanketing dust infiltrating every aspect of their lives for years," Mr Draper said.

Mr Draper said the Minister would consider providing funding to seal the remainder of the road through the Government's priority road funding program.

"I welcome the announcement which comes on the heels of my speech in Parliament this week about Topdale Rd, but I see it as a one kilometre down, ten to go," Mr Draper said.

"Mr Scully has made comments to the effect that I've been a nag but I intend to keep Topdale Rd high on his list of priorities and if I have to make a nuisance of myself I will," he said.

Mr Draper said he still had work to do but thanked local residents for pushing the issue and the 931 people who signed a petition asking the Government to commit funding. He also thanked Walcha Mayor Bill Heazlett for giving an assurance of Council funding and said he looked forward to working with Council to secure further funding to complete the project.

Attached is the Hansard copy of Mr Draper's speech on Topdale Rd in Parliament on Tuesday.

www.peterdraper.com.au

Media Contacts: Peter Draper 0417 290 376 Electorate Office ph. 6766 1422
Donna Hurley 0419 409 538 Parliament House ph. 9230 2341