

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

Commitment on Prime News services

18th July 2003

Independent Member for Tamworth Peter Draper has welcomed a commitment from Prime Television that current news operations will not be affected as the network seeks to meet new local content guidelines as determined by the Australian Broadcasting Authority.

Mr Draper said the commitment had ended speculation that the Prime News office in Tamworth could be impacted by the new guidelines.

“This is a very welcome commitment from Prime Television and ensures the immediate future of our local television news service in the Electorate of Tamworth,” Mr Draper said.

“Under new local content regulations drafted by the Australian Broadcasting Authority, Prime Television is required to increase its local content in a number of areas around NSW. Prime has now indicated that increasing local content will not come at the cost of current news operations.”

“The Prime News service which operates out of Tamworth will not be affected by any move to increase local content in NSW in the immediate future. That includes Prime News bureaus which operate along the north coast of NSW.”

“This commitment secures the jobs of journalists, cameramen and production staff not only in Tamworth but across NSW for the immediate future.”

“I thank Prime Television for working to maintain competitive standards in regional news services.”

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