



# Kevin Humphries MP

## Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water

## Minister for Western NSW

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# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **25-YEAR WAIT FOR WYEE IS FINALLY OVER**

Wye residents will save up to \$3500 a year as the result of the NSW Government's decision to connect the town to Hunter's Water's sewerage system, NSW Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water announced today.

Mr Humphries said that under the fully funded \$26 million plan, Hunter Water's sewer system will connect 400 lots and be built with an eye to future development, with the system large enough to transfer the sewerage flows of 1000 lots.

"There are literally hundreds of families who have been waiting more than 25 years for Hunter Water's sewerage network to be extended to Wye and I am very pleased to announce that the NSW Government and Hunter Water will fund 100 per cent of the cost of the connection," Mr Humphries said.

"Hunter Water will now complete preliminary plans to transfer the waste to the Dora Creek or Charmhaven treatment plants or possibly to a privately owned system that makes use of a small, locally operated plant.

"The cost of pump-out services is significantly higher than reticulated sewer, and far less reliable leaving residents facing an additional cost of living while also having to manage temperamental, environmentally unfriendly effluent disposal systems.

"This \$2.4 million contribution by the NSW Government and \$23.6 million funded through an Environmental Improvement Charge on Hunter Water's sewerage customers will result in an annual saving of up to \$3500 per family who have fortnightly been paying for their septic tanks to be pumped."

Mr Humphries said connecting to Hunter Water's reticulated sewerage system will unlock Wye's vast potential.

"Wye is well positioned to become a key growth corridor linking the Hunter and Central Coast. It has its own train station, is just five minutes from the M1 and has an abundance of large land that will now be developed over the next decade," Mr Humphries said.

"It will open up land for affordable housing, attracting families, and boosting commercial investment and local employment."

Wye Childcare Centre owner Karen O'Connor said the decision would be welcomed by local business owners.

"Small businesses in Wye have to juggle pump-out costs and septic maintenance among other overheads, which can make doing business in the area incredibly challenging. Knowing we'll get sewerage here is a huge relief and has already lifted the spirits of the community," Ms O'Connor said.