

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**20 June 2018**

**NSW BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR A CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS STRATEGY**

CCAA welcomes the record infrastructure investment in the NSW 2018-19 Budget, including \$24 billion investment in 2018-19. Construction materials such as hard rock, sand, and concrete are essential to build the roads, rail, cultural and sporting facilities, schools and hospitals announced in the Budget.

Construction materials represent up to 35 per cent of total project materials costs for a typical construction project<sup>1</sup>, with each person in NSW annually consuming 8 tonnes of extractive resources. Given their importance, the construction materials industry believes that the NSW Government should work with industry to develop a strategy that secures future extractive resources.

“A comprehensive strategy to protect and secure future quarry and industrial lands would bring down the future cost of construction materials, and secure the supply of these essential materials in building NSW’s infrastructure now and into the future” CCAA Chief Executive Office Ken Slattery said.

Other states have begun the process of implementing long term strategies for the secure and cost effective supply of construction materials, with the Victorian Government showing leadership through the recently released *Helping Victoria Grow: Extractive Resources Strategy*.

CCAA welcomes the Budget announcement to enable the sustainable exploration and access to geological resources, and recommend that a portion of these funds be spent on a strategy to protect and secure future construction materials.

CCAA was also pleased to see the commitment by the Port Authority of NSW to build a multi-user terminal to import bulk materials through Glebe Island in 2019. “A multi-user terminal at Glebe Island will vastly improve the capacity and ability of the industry to supply construction materials to support NSWs infrastructure projects, in particular those near the CBD” Mr Slattery said.

CCAA supports the establishment of the NSW Generations Fund (NGF), which will secure the Government’s long term budget position, invest in local communities, and ensure funds are available for future infrastructure investment.

“The formula is clear, strong investment in infrastructure improves the economy and creates more jobs” Mr Slattery said, “A comprehensive strategy to protect and secure extractive resources will ensure that future budgets can continue to deliver cost effective infrastructure in NSW”.

**GENERAL MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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<sup>1</sup> Extractive Resources in Victoria: Demand and Supply Study 2015-2050, p 87