



## T R E A S U R E R

### STATEMENT

## NSW Budget: securing jobs and infrastructure

NSW Treasurer Eric Roozendaal today reaffirmed the NSW Government's commitment to secure jobs and invest in job-creating infrastructure as preparations continue for the 2009-10 NSW Budget.

"The upcoming state budget will focus on the NSW Government's No 1 priority – securing jobs and investing in job-creating infrastructure," Mr Roozendaal said.

"When families are under pressure in a time of global recession, this is the time to be protecting frontline services and funding the biggest infrastructure program of any Australian government.

"The priority now is to use the state's strong balance sheet to support jobs and the state's four-year \$56.9 billion infrastructure investment program, which will sustain 150,000 jobs every year.

The strength of the NSW balance sheet allows us to go into a budget deficit to support jobs, infrastructure and frontline services."

Mr Roozendaal condemned Barry O'Farrell's Coalition for its incoherent policy position on the state's economy.

"Barry O'Farrell wants to borrow billions more, destroying the state's strong balance sheet, while his shadow treasury spokesman and leadership rival, Mike Baird, wants to increase taxes and cut frontline services," Mr Roozendaal said.

"Mr O'Farrell and Mr Baird are clearly at war with each other for the Coalition's top job and aren't even talking to each other on vital policy matters like the state economy."

Mr O'Farrell on borrowing billions more:

**Question: You would go out and borrow a few extra billion?**

**Mr O'Farrell: We'd do that, Mike.**

- Barry O'Farrell, Radio 2UE Breakfast, November 12, 2008

Mr Baird's commitment to increases taxes and cut services:

**"We would never deliver a budget where expense growth grows faster than revenue growth"**

-Mike Baird, Radio 2SM, March 25, 2009

The 2009-10 NSW Budget will be handed down on June 16.

**May 1, 2009**

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