

## **Robyn Parker MP**

## Minister for the Environment Minister for Heritage

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday, 15 August 2013

## NSW GOVERNMENT AND GREATER TAREE COUNCIL COLLABORATE ON OLD BAR SOLUTION

Environment Minister Robyn Parker, Myall Lakes MP Steve Bromhead and Greater Taree City Council Mayor Paul Hogan today announced a collaborative approach to find a long term solution for coastal erosion at Old Bar.

Ms Parker said that this week staff from the Office of Environment and Heritage met with Greater Taree City Council to set the foundation for closer collaboration and to move towards a long term solution that involves all stakeholders.

"The NSW Government recognises that the coastal erosion at Old Bar is an ongoing threat to properties and there is need to address this issue as soon as possible," Ms Parker said.

"I'm pleased to see a renewed effort to resolve this issue and I've indicated that we will consider a submission from Council for funding assistance."

Mr Bromhead said that it was important that all stakeholders are involved in the decision making process.

"All parties are working together to find real long-term solutions," Mr Bromhead said.

Mr Hogan said the meeting yesterday drew up an action plan which will help to put all the realistic options on the table and to move towards a permanent solution.

"A study will be prepared that thoroughly examines all viable options to address the erosion at Old Bar Beach," Mr Hogan said.

"This is a priority for Council, and a joint working party involving senior OEH and Council staff has been established. This working party will oversee completion of this project as quickly as is feasible.

"It's important that all stakeholders are involved including affected private landholders, public land managers, government authorities and the wider community.

"I welcome the closer collaboration between Council and the Office of Environment and Heritage."