

24 March 2009

MANUFACTURE OF 38,000 TUNNEL LINING SEGMENTS COMPLETE

Construction of the Clem Jones Tunnel (CLEM7) reached another milestone today when the last of 38,000 concrete tunnel lining segments rolled off the production line.

Commencing work in August 2007, the facility has now produced all 38,000 concrete segments that will line the walls of the CLEM7.

The factory has been operating 24 hours per day, 7 days a week producing an average of 100 tunnel lining segments per day.

Each segment is 40cm thick, about 4.5m long, 2m wide and weighs approximately 8.5 tonne.

“At a cost of \$20 million, this is by far the most advanced precast concrete facility ever constructed and operated in Australia,” said RiverCity Motorway Chief Executive Officer, Flan Cleary.

“No other facility in Australia has used this level of automated technology to produce this number of concrete products, at very exact sizes, and in such a short period of time.

“Nine of the precast concrete segments fit together to form a complete section of tunnel lining. To fit together, each segment must be within 0.3 of a millimetre of its intended size. The precision is incredible,” Mr Cleary said.

Both of the project’s 4000-tonne tunnel boring machines have been installing up to 90 concrete tunnel lining segments per day.

The two massive tunnel boring machines digging the CLEM7 have now completed 80% of their journey. Both machines remain on schedule to complete their journey to Woolloongabba by mid 2009.

“Construction progress is continuing well ahead of schedule. While work at the tunnel lining facility is now complete we are ramping up the size of the team installing mechanical and electrical equipment inside the tunnel,” Mr Cleary said.

“During 2009, a team of more than 350 people will be installing electrical cables, lights, ventilation fans and safety systems inside the CLEM7. “

Activity	Progress to Date	Total at Completion
Tunnel Boring Machine #1	3.3 kilometres	4.3 kilometres
Tunnel Boring Machine #2	3.9 kilometres	4.3 kilometres
Roadheader Excavation	360,000m ³	360,000m ³
Total rock excavated	3 million tonne (86%)	3.5 million tonne
Cross Passages and Substation Passages Excavated	45 (75%)	60
Tunnel Lining Segment Manufacture	38,000	38,000
Bridges Complete	18	18
Surface Roads	103,000m ² (66%)	155,000m ²

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