



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP
Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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**RESTORATION OF HISTORIC CROOKHAVEN LIGHTHOUSE
BEGINS**

Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson and Member for South Coast, Shelley Hancock have congratulated all those involved in the restoration of the Crookhaven Lighthouse on the south coast near Nowra.

“The restoration of the Crookhaven Lighthouse has been a mammoth effort but represents the renewal of a piece of South Coast history,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“There have been a number of Commonwealth, State and local agencies that have worked hard on plans to restore the 107-year-old lighthouse on the Crookhaven headland.

“The Australian Defence Force has been instrumental in the lifting of the lighthouse – a heavy lift Navy helicopter was used to carry the lighthouse’s lantern room to the ground while army personnel assisted by rigging the large steel structure for the lift.”

“The lift of the two tonne lantern structure took place earlier today so that it can be transported to the South Coast Correctional Centre at Nowra for restoration.

“A local firm, Isons and Co., provided the use of a crane to load the lantern onto a truck that was used to move it to the correctional centre.

“Engineers from the division of Crown Lands prepared the lantern structure ready for the lift and have also secured the remains of the building from further deterioration,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

Ms Hancock said the local Rural Fire Service, Corrective Services and Shoalhaven City Council were instrumental in getting the lantern on its way in preparation for the restoration process.

“Shoalhaven Mayor, Paul Green has been very supportive of moves to refurbish the lighthouse by heading up a committee that has been discussing the importance of this restoration project,” Ms Hancock said.

“The committee is also looking at options to raise funds to add to the \$100,000 generously provided by the NSW Government.

“I know many members of the local community have been saddened to see the old lighthouse suffer severe degradation and vandalism over the years but I’m pleased to see this initiative is breathing new life into a significant piece of the area’s history.”