



**Mark Speakman**  
Minister for the Environment  
Minister for Heritage  
Assistant Minister for Planning

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, 15 January 2016

### **NSW GOVERNMENT WAIVES WASTE LEVY FOR PORT STEPHENS AND HUNTER STORM AFFECTED RESIDENTS**

Environment Minister Mark Speakman has announced assistance for Port Stephens and Hunter region residents affected by the recent storms, with the NSW Government waiving the waste levy for people and businesses cleaning up after the storms.

“Heavy rain and flash flooding has caused damage to homes and business across the region,” Minister Speakman said.

“Our thoughts are with those who were evacuated or remain isolated by floodwaters.”

“As the water recedes, the clean-up process will begin. The NSW Government will help by waiving the waste levy in the affected area, for waste including building, food and asbestos waste generated from the storm.”

“This is one of the ways the Government helps those dealing with the results of severe weather events. It means people will not have to pay NSW Government waste disposal fees as they clean up their properties.”

Local government areas included in the exemption are:

Dungog  
Great Lakes  
Maitland  
Newcastle  
Port Stephens

The waiver will continue until 29 February 2016.

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