

Photo: Work underway on Tamworth's new regional freight terminal

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FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR TAMWORTH INTERMODAL

Major work to reactivate five kilometers of the branch line between West Tamworth and Westdale has begun.

Member for Tamworth, Kevin Anderson said the old railway tracks are being torn out and the new rail is ready to be laid for a new regional freight terminal.

"A \$35 million funding commitment from the NSW Government will provide a valuable freight link connecting the Tamworth Regional Freight Terminal to key export markets.

"The project will bolster the Tamworth regional job market, providing hundreds of jobs during construction of the line and operation of the new terminal.

"Once complete, this project will provide a direct link between the Tamworth Regional Freight Terminal and Port Botany meaning our local producers will be able to transport their produce with efficiency," Mr. Anderson said.

The 5km rail project will include the replacement of four culverts, four bridge structures, and the upgrading of level crossings at Gunnedah Road, Evans Street and Dampier Street.

Mr Anderson said this latest announcement comes after initial funding of \$7.4 million from the NSW Growing Local Economies fund.

"Projects like these are vital to the ongoing growth of our electorate and regional infrastructure.

"Without projects like these, our terminals would become severely outdated, particularly with NSW regional freight set to experience 12% growth to 286 million tonnes over the next 16 years."

Mr Anderson said he is looking forward to the work on the branch line being completed by the end of 2021.

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