



# MEDIA RELEASE

**The Hon Peter Garrett MP**

*Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts*

PG /51

10 April 2008

## **PUBLIC SUBMISSION PERIOD CLOSES ON NOBBYS LIGHTHOUSE**

More than 400 submissions had been received from the Newcastle community regarding a proposed development around Nobbys Lighthouse on Nobbys Headland in Newcastle, Heritage Minister Peter Garrett said today.

Mr Garrett said that he would give the submissions received during the 10 day consultation period full and thorough consideration before making a final decision on the development proposal before him.

“Before making a final decision on this particular development proposal I advised both the proponent and the local community of my proposed decision not to allow this particular development. However, before reaching a final decision I will consider the further feedback I have received from the community and the proponent.

“I am encouraged by the number of responses and value the effort people have made to inform me of their views. I will consider the content of each submission before making a final decision.”

Mr Garrett said that some of submissions received included input from a large number of people, for example one submission included more than 400 comments received through a local website.

“Nobbys Lighthouse is the oldest surviving lighthouse in New South Wales and is an icon of Newcastle City. I will of course be making my decision taking this into account along with the advice of my Department, an independent heritage report and the community feedback received through this process.”

The Minister’s final decision will be published on the Department of Environment, Heritage, Water and the Arts website as soon as a final determination has been reached.