



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**The Hon Peter Garrett MP**

*Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts*

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## **GARRETT FUNDS EMISSIONS TESTING FACILITY FOR HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES**

Australia's first engine emissions test facility for heavy duty vehicles will be built in Western Australia with \$2.76 million in Australian Government funding, announced today by Environment Minister Peter Garrett.

"This project will assist with funding the development of the first facility in Australia capable of testing heavy duty vehicle engines to international certification level testing for both regulated and greenhouse gas emissions," Mr Garrett said.

"Having access to such a facility will allow Australian Government and industry more effectively explore options for greenhouse gas reductions from larger transport vehicles, without compromising existing air quality standards."

The Australian Government will provide a grant for 50 per cent of the development and operating costs to Orbital Australia for the development of the facility through the Australian Government's Alternative Fuels Conversion Program.

"Initial project development will cost almost \$4 million, with ongoing operating costs of around \$400,000 annually for the first five years of operation," Mr Garrett said.

"Orbital Australia will provide the other 50 per cent of the funding; in return the Australian Government will receive preferential access to the facility.

"Orbital Australia has undertaken testing and development work for a range of automotive companies including Toyota, Holden and Ford.

"The investment by the Australian Government will enhance Australia's ability to effectively engage with engine developers in the rapidly growing Chinese and Indian economies with a view to improving fuel efficiency of heavy duty vehicles and provide less greenhouse intensive outcomes."

Orbital Australia Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Orbital Corporation Ltd, an international developer of engine and related technologies. The company provides research, design, development and testing services to many of the world's power train producers, regulatory authorities and research institutions.