



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

FERRY MARKET TESTING PROCESS ENTERS NEXT STAGE

The NSW Government is investing \$3.6 billion in 626 new train carriages for commuters.

Wednesday 27 May 2009

Minister for Transport David Campbell today said two firms had been shortlisted in the next stage of the Sydney Ferries market testing process.

Mr Campbell said progress was being made on reforming Sydney's ferry services, following the Government's response the Walker Special Commission of Inquiry last year.

"The market testing process is allowing Government to determine whether the private sector, or Sydney Ferries, can provide the best, most efficient ferry service for passengers," Mr Campbell said.

"Bret Walker's recommendation was for Government to conduct a market testing exercise and we are fully committed to this.

"Five responses were received to the Stage 2 Expression of Interest phase from a range of local and international transport operators.

"After being assessed against their operational, safety, industrial relations and strategic capabilities, two firms have been recommended for shortlisting."

The two firms are:

- Transdev TSL
- Veolia Transport Australasia.

Mr Campbell said tender documents would now be provided to both firms and tenders would need to be submitted by 21 August 2009.

"As I've said before, this process is about finding the best ferry operator for Sydney and if private operators can't beat the benchmark set by Sydney Ferries, then the new contract will remain with them."

Mr Campbell said a final decision would be made by the end of the year.

Further information on the Sydney Ferries Market Review can be found at:
<http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/inquiries/walker-ferry-inquiry.html>