
DATE Friday 30 January 2009

NEW HEALTH SERVICE TO BE ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE

One more week remains for landowners in the south Bega area to submit an expression of interest for the purchase of land for construction of a new health service for the Bega Valley region.

The \$100 million health facility is to be built on a 'greenfield' site and the project is to be an environmentally sustainable development (ESD).

Sydney based firm Bluevisions Management has been appointed to lead the project through the design and construction stages.

Greater Southern Area Health Service Eastern Sector General Manager, Ken Barnett, said the chance to build an environmentally sustainable project is an exciting prospect for the region.

"The new facility will be a state of the art building, and making it an ESD is reflective of community focus. Bluevisions Management will be taking a keen and enthusiastic approach to the development of all ESD initiatives for the new Bega Valley Health Service.

"The ESD initiatives incorporate building design, orientation, re-use of existing materials, waste management, building adaptability and fabrics. They will also utilise highly efficient plant, equipment, fixtures and fittings."

"Importantly, the fact that we are building it on a 'greenfield' site means we will not be constrained by an existing structure" Mr Barnett said.

Mr Barnett said the project team is also recommending the ESD concept be developed further so that the facility can achieve a high Green Star Rating (Australian Excellence).

"The Green Star Rating awards points for achievements of specific credits in a number of categories including indoor environment quality, energy, transport, water, innovation, and land use and ecology"

"The Green Building Council of Australia will only certify buildings that achieve a rating of Four, Five or Six Stars" he said.

Mr Barnett reminded landowners that the closing date for the EOI is February 12th 2009.

The size of the land for the new facility will need to be approximately five hectares with suitable traffic access roads and access to public transport, and not be flood or bush fire prone.

The site would need to be available by the end of June this year, have availability of suitable utilities connections and have topography suitable for the building of a health service with possible provision for future expansion.

The land is to be acquired at market value with a market valuation assessment by an independent registered valuer conducted to form the basis of the negotiations.

Mr Barnett said all interested parties, including previous respondents, need to submit their interest in writing and place it in the tender box located in the front reception at Bega District Hospital, McKee Drive, Bega between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

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