



**Gerry McCarthy**  
MINISTER FOR CONSTRUCTION

15 March 2011

## **Blasting To Help Build New Berrimah Overpass**

Rock blasting is set to begin at Hidden Valley this weekend to provide vital material required to build the new Berrimah Road rail overpass.

Construction Minister Gerry McCarthy said the blasting is set to take place along a 300 metre stretch between Hidden Valley Road overpass and Amy Johnson Avenue.

Mr McCarthy said the blasting will take place from 11 am this Saturday with traffic diversions in place at Berrimah Road and Amy Johnson Avenue 30 minutes prior to blasting.

“Work is underway to build the new \$17 million overpass that will deliver uninterrupted access to the Darwin Business Park and East Arm Port,” Mr McCarthy said.

“Currently, access to these areas, and the rail network, is intermittently affected by train movements.

“This work will prevent such interruptions - which is especially beneficial for emergency service vehicles.

“This site has been chosen due to its close proximity to the new rail overpass and will also make way for further duplication of Tiger Brennan Drive.

“An exclusion zone will be set up and nearby roads closed so public safety is not compromised.

“Following the blast, the area will be checked and cleared of rock debris before being reopened to traffic.

“I urge motorists to utilise the Stuart Highway during this time to avoid delays. Those who need to travel in the area should obey all traffic signs and devices and drive patiently at all times.”

Mr McCarthy said a second round of blasting is set to take place from 6pm on Tuesday, 22 March 2011.

He said a total of 70,000 cubic metres of material is expected to be extracted during the blasting process for use during the overpass’s construction.

Construction of the new Berrimah Road rail overpass is set to be complete in December 2011 and opened to traffic soon after.

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