



John Barilaro

Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional NSW
Minister for Skills
Minister for Small Business

Austin Evans

Member for Murray

MEDIA RELEASE

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BREWING STRONGER BUSINESSES IN THE RIVERINA

Member for Murray Austin Evans, and Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro today announced Whitton Voyager Craft Malt will receive NSW Government funding to expand their malting business in the Riverina.

Touring the company's malthouse today with the Deputy Premier, Mr Evans said the funding, provided by the NSW Government backed Jobs for NSW, will help expand its malting and production facilities - creating 10 new full time jobs for the region.

"Today's funding announcement is a fantastic commitment by the NSW Government to continue to invest in jobs in the Murray electorate," Mr Evans said.

"Voyager Craft Malt is a family owned company. Those families have been producing high quality barley and cereal grains in the Riverina for four generations. It's also the first company to build a beer malting facility that uses single origin, locally grown grain for craft beer and whiskey.

"A new malting facility in Whitton will provide the missing link in the 'paddock to pint' process, which brings consumers closer to the production of the beers they enjoy, while creating more jobs in the region," he said.

Mr Barilaro said the expansion of the malting facility would spark a new industry in the Riverina, helping to create a more diversified economy.

"With today's funding announcement, beer lovers across Australia will finally be able to enjoy locally crafted beers brewed from a range of different grains that are grown and malted sustainably in the Riverina," Mr Barilaro said.

"The Riverina is home to world-class food, fibre and brewing malts and we want to back local businesses like this one that are creating jobs by value-adding to our local premium produce.

"Agriculture is a \$700 million industry in the Riverina and it's great to see local companies making the most of the assistance available to them through the government-backed Jobs for NSW, which in turn helps those regional companies make the most of their business opportunities," he said.

Brad Woolner, General Manager at Voyager said the funding has allowed the business to expand its processing capacity and process a wider range of grains.

"This expansion will mean an increase in our employment requirements, increased

output to meet customer demand, and ultimately it will strengthen the long term viability of the business, Mr Woolner said.

“Initiatives like the Jobs for NSW program are integral to boosting revenues and employment within our local regions,” he said.

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