



**NEW SOUTH WALES**

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **The Hon Frank Sartor MP**

*Minister for Planning*

*Minister for Redfern Waterloo*

*Minister for Science and Medical Research*

*Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)*

3 March 2006

### **WORONORA FIRE TRAIL RESERVED FOR EMERGENCY ONLY**

Planning Minister Frank Sartor today confirmed the protection of bushland around the Woronora Fire Trail following his approval to rezone the area.

Mr Sartor said an amendment to the Sutherland Local Environmental Plan would rezone the 700 metre fire trail between Woronora and Woronora Heights from Special Uses to Environmental Protection (Bushland).

“Sutherland Council has dithered over making a decision on the most appropriate use for the Woronora Fire Trail for too long”, Mr Sartor said.

“I have visited the site and spoken directly with the residents and met with both the Member for Menai Alison Megarrity and the Member for Heathcote Paul Mcleay on numerous occasions.

“In light of this consultation I have approved the Sutherland LEP Amendment 17, which only allows emergency access on the Woronora Access Road.

“This decision is the best decision for the community and for the environment.

“Ensuring access on the road by emergency vehicles only will address potential traffic issues and allow further bush regeneration to be carried out.

“The approval is published in today’s Government Gazette, and is effective from now.

“Sutherland Council’s conflicting deliberations on this issue have made it an unnecessarily prolonged process and I am pleased that I have been able to finally give the residents a solution”, Mr Sartor said.