Statement from Victorian Coordinator General for Economic Stimulus Package, Tony Canavan

Round One of the Commonwealth Government’s Nation Building - Economic Stimulus Package’s Building the Education Revolution school rebuilding program has been underway since 1 July 2009. Over 240 government schools will benefit from the construction of new and refurbished libraries, classrooms and multipurpose centres.

Work is about to start at more than 160 government schools as part of Round Two of the Building the Education Revolution program.

Tenders were released in late June for Round Two projects. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development expects to finalise contracts for a further 25% of Round Two projects in the coming weeks and will retender the remaining projects.

The retendering is occurring to ensure that Victoria gets best possible value for money. It is expected that contracts for these projects will be awarded progressively through September to December 2009.

The tendering process for Round Three projects along with the 70 Science and Language Centres, will get underway in the coming weeks.

The Building the Education Revolution program consists of three components:

- Primary Schools for the 21st Century, where 1,844 Victorian schools have received $3,269.5 billion for new libraries, multi-purpose centres, classrooms or to refurbish their existing facilities.
- National School Pride where 2,277 Victorian schools have received $301.6 million for minor works and refurbishment projects
- Science and Language Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools where 109 Victorian secondary schools have received $196.5 million for science and language centres.

For more information contact the Victorian BER Information Line on 1800 679 938.