

Facelift for Kirra hits stage two

CLIMATE Change Minister Kate Jones said the Bligh Government was committed to spending the full \$1.5 million budgeted to restore Kirra beach to its former glory and the second stage of the project would begin next month.

Department of Environment officers yesterday met Gold Coast City Council officers to work on stage two which will see 200,000 cubic metres of sand pushed to the back of the beach to form sand dunes.

Stage one works completed at the end of July saw 10,000 cubic metres of sand moved from the shoreline to fill the toxic lagoons that had formed at the back of the beach and other sand used for repairs at Palm Beach.

Ms Jones said storms had since shed 200,000 cubic metres of sand from Kirra which meant massive quantities of sand had been removed not at taxpayers' expense, but she said the Government would still proceed with the project.

This was a backflip from earlier this month when she was criticised for saying the Government had decided 'not to progress the full extent of the planned stage two works at this time'.

Yesterday, she said: "We have committed to proceed with the next stage of the project."