

## Media Release

# Powering on at Lord's Raceway

*24<sup>th</sup> June 2016*

Minister for Racing Martin Pakula today announced a significant funding arrangement from the Victorian Government for the purchase of two new generators that will supply the power for the track lights for both the Bendigo Greyhound Racing Association and the Bendigo Harness Racing Club.

Minister Pakula was joined by Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan in making the announcement that the Andrews Labor Government will contribute more than \$120,000 to the project courtesy of the Victorian Racing Industry Fund.

The installation of the generators will allow the two Clubs to separate the current shared metering and in turn lead to a reduction in significant expenses being experienced under the current arrangement.

“Country racing is a major employer and great tourist attraction for our regional centres and towns and we are proud to invest in its future. These new generators will the harness racing club and greyhound club to continue to run night meetings more cost efficiently” said Minister Pakula.

The Hon. Jacinta Allan added “These generators will power night racing at Lord's Raceway attracting visitors and supporting jobs in Bendigo”.

Harness Racing Victoria, Greyhound Racing Victoria and the Bendigo Greyhound Racing Association are providing the balance of the project that in total is worth more than \$240,000.

Both Clubs welcomed the announcement and the commencement of the project with BHRC Sales and Marketing Manager Brendan Baker stating “We're always looking at ways to reduce our operating costs, without impacting on the racing experience. The new generator will allow us to do just that by saving around \$30,000 annually on our power bills”.

BGRA Manager Troy Harley added “We're grateful to the Victorian Government for helping to fund our new generator. The \$30,000 we expect to save annually will allow us to redirect those finances to further improve the venue for participants and patrons”.

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**From left to right: Paul Best (BHRC President), Jacinta Allan (Member for Bendigo East), Martin Pakula (Minister for Racing), Bob Douglas (BGRA President)**



**Minister for Racing, Martin Pakula and Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan**