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### NSW secures new television drama

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The NSW Government has helped secure the production of a new 13-part television drama series for the State which will inject an estimated \$10.8 million into the economy and employ 329 people.

Minister for State Development Ian Macdonald said the NSW Film and Television Industry Attraction Fund (FIAF) will be used to provide a payroll tax rebate to Southern Star Entertainment to produce the new series called Rescue.

The series is being financed by the Federal Government's Screen Australia with pre-production of the series taking place in February 2009.

"We will have filming from April to August followed by a post production phase from August to November 2009," Mr Macdonald said.

The series will employ 329 people including 136 actors, 20 stunt performers, 61 crew and 100 extras.

"It will also provide entry level training opportunities through trainee attachments in the areas of directing, art, editing, camera work, make-up and scriptwriting."

The storyline for Rescue centres on two competitive brothers who are members of the Special Operations Rescue Unit.

The high energy television series is expected to see a range of rescue scenarios filmed in and around Sydney including city suburbs, Bondi, Sydney Harbour, beachside locations, Luna Park and Kings Cross, as well as on the city's rural fringes and in the Hunter Valley.

The 13 one-hour episodes will screen on a commercial channel in 2010.

Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts, Virginia Judge, welcomed the local production.

"This is a great opportunity to provide jobs to the many talented people who work in front of the cameras and behind the scenes," Ms Judge said.

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