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Consortium led by AFL chief Mike Fitzpatrick buys control of ANZ Stadium

EXCLUSIVE: Adele Ferguson | June 23, 2009

Article from: *The Australian*

A CONSORTIUM led by AFL chairman Mike Fitzpatrick has bought control of the ANZ Stadium in Sydney, The Australian Online can reveal.



The Diversified Infrastructure Trust has about \$220 million in funds under management, including Stadium Australia, owner of Sydney's ANZ Stadium.

ANZ will announce the sale of its infrastructure arm, which counts the stadium among almost \$1 billion of funds under management, tomorrow.

The deal is believed to be worth more than \$30 million.

Mr Fitzpatrick, who founded Hastings Funds Management before selling a controlling stake to Westpac, will take a 50 per cent interest in ANZ Infrastructure Services.

John Clarke, the ANZIS managing director who already owns 20 per cent of the business, will increase his stake to 40 per cent. Prominent corporate advisor Les Fallick will own 10 per cent.

ANZ currently owns 80 per cent of ANZIS, which is an adviser and investment manager across several sectors such as energy, infrastructure and utilities.

Its Energy Infrastructure Trust manages more than \$750 million of energy assets, including power generation, wind farms, gas pipelines and gas production.

The Diversified Infrastructure Trust has about \$220 million in funds under management, including Stadium Australia, owner of Sydney's ANZ Stadium.

Mr Fitzpatrick, who led Carlton to two premierships in the 1980s and now chairs the AFL, will be chairman of ANZIS after the buyout, with Mr Clarke remaining as managing director.

Mr Fitzpatrick is also a Rio Tinto director.

He has agreed to absent himself from discussions at ANZIS or the AFL on any issues relating to ANZ Stadium, which regularly hosts AFL matches.