



Media release
Wednesday, 1 July 2009

Tasmania's water and sewerage industry enters new era

Today ushers in a new era for the operation and management of Tasmania's water and sewerage infrastructure, with the establishment of Cradle Mountain Water, Ben Lomond Water and Southern Water.

From today, all public concerns, questions and enquiries regarding billing, connections, developments and the reporting of faults and services need to be directed to the new regional water corporations on MYWATER (136992).

Chairman Geoff Willis said the State Government's reform of the water industry will ensure an improvement in services across Tasmania and the development of vital infrastructure.

"1 July marks an important step forward for Tasmania in ensuring the State's future water needs," Mr Willis said.

"Through taking a coordinated, regional approach to water and sewerage, the new corporations will deliver a prioritised program of improvements to infrastructure and services.

"The regional water corporations will also plan for and manage serious issues such as climate change.

"Over time there will also be improved services and the removal of boil-water alerts in Tasmanian towns.

"Experts will work with the corporations to care for the environment and ensure the sustainable management of one of our most precious resources."

Southern Water CEO Danny Sutton said the role of Southern Water is to source, treat and supply clean and safe drinking water to customers on town water.

"We will also manage the safe removal and treatment of wastewater from southern homes and businesses," Mr Sutton said.

"As of today, all southern region home owners will automatically become customers of Southern Water."

Mr Sutton said the most obvious difference for most Tasmanians will be the name of their new regional water corporation, the new contact phone number and a separate water and sewerage account.

"The day-to-day things that matter to all Tasmanians, like turning on the tap and pouring a glass of water, will stay the same," he said.

The size and scale of Southern Water size is significant nationally; being the 12th largest water industry business in Australia."

"Southern Water will be responsible for almost 3,000 kms of water mains covering an area of 25,522 km² and will supply around 43,000 ML of water per year to the south east Tasmanian community."

"The establishment of Southern Water today highlights the momentous commitment of employees to the community and I wish to thank them for their dedication and hard work."

Mr Sutton said Southern Water looked forward to working to ensure that everybody in the southern region of Tasmania can enjoy the highest quality of water and sewerage services now, and into the future.

For more information about the three regional water corporations, people can visit www.mywatertas.com.au or phone 13MYWATER (136992).

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