

Attn: Chief of Staff; News Editor; News Producer

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For immediate release

Media Release

SOUTHERN WATER UNDERTAKES FLUSHING PROGRAM TO ADDRESS WATER PROBLEMS IN PARTS OF HOBART

Southern Water is flushing fresh water through the water mains system supplying the Hobart suburbs of Mt Stuart, Lenah Valley and the upper reaches of South Hobart and West Hobart to overcome taste and odour problems.

Executive Manager Service Delivery, Mr Ian Dunbabin, said the flushing program should result in an improvement to the water supply by early afternoon.

He said problems had developed when water low in oxygen content was pumped from a storage reservoir, impacting on the odour and taste of the water. The pumping program was part of the normal summer operation of the water system.

Water in the system is now being flushed from the system at points in South Hobart, West Hobart and in Lenah Valley and is being replaced with fresh supplies drawn directly from the Bryn Estyn system.

“While we’re advised the water does not present a health risk, residents are advised to avoid drinking tap water until the supply returns to normal,” Mr Dunbabin said.

“We’re confident the flushing operation will overcome the taste and odour problems fairly quickly and customers should see an improvement by early afternoon.”

Mr Dunbabin apologised to all residents affected by the odour problems. He said Southern Water would continue to monitor the system closely to ensure customers received the best quality water possible.

For further information contact Sophie Shelswell-White 0457 300 855