



## **PREMIER SWITCHES ON SYDNEY'S LARGEST INDUSTRIAL WATER RECYCLING PROJECT**

NSW State Plan Priority E1: A secure and sustainable water supply for all users

December 12, 2006

NSW Premier Morris Iemma today switched on Sydney's largest industrial water recycling project which could save up to five billion litres of precious drinking water each year by recycling water from the Botany Aquifer for industrial use.

"Water recycling sits at the heart of our Metropolitan Water Plan, and this project is the latest in a long line of recycling and stormwater harvesting projects that we are funding to help secure Sydney's water supply," Mr Iemma said.

"We're not talking about recycling – we're doing it.

"This project is further evidence that we are getting on with the job of investing in major water recycling projects, but there's still more to do," Mr Iemma said.

The Premier said the NSW Government provided \$1.4 million to three of Sydney's major manufacturing companies to help them participate in the project.

"The Iemma Government is pleased to provide financial assistance to Orica, Qenos and Solvay Interlox to get this groundbreaking project up and running," Mr Iemma said.

"Orica's recycling project at Botany involves piping highly treated groundwater to major companies and other customers around the area.

"The Iemma Government's new direction on water management is focussed on recycling, with major projects like these boosting recycled water use from 15 billion litres to 70 billion litres by 2015."

Mr Iemma and Minister for Water Utilities David Campbell today joined representatives of the companies in turning the valves on the pipelines to let the recycled water flow to Qenos and Orica's ChlorAlkali plant.

Solvay Interlox will start receiving recycled water at its plant early next year.

"I am pleased to announce \$1 million for Qenos and \$157,000 for Orica's ChlorAlkali pipeline -- bringing our total assistance package to \$1.4 million."

Earlier this year, the Iemma Government provided \$200,000 to Solvay Interlox.

"Water is one of the main raw materials used at Orica's ChlorAlkali plant to make chemical products for water purification and manufacturing," Mr Campbell said.

"The project will save 85 per cent of the drinking water currently used at the site for manufacturing and save 186 million litres of water a year.

"Qenos will use the recycled water at its demineralisation plant and in its cooling towers which will ultimately save more than two billion litres of water a year.

"It's interesting that this recycled water will be used to manufacture the raw materials that go into making rainwater tanks, which will save even more water."

Solvay Interlox will use the recycled water at its Banksmeadow site, saving 200 million litres a year.

"The Water Savings Fund is a key element of the Government's Metropolitan Water Plan designed to secure Sydney's water," Mr Campbell said.

"More than \$40 million has now been allocated through the Water Savings Fund to 71 stormwater harvesting, efficiency, groundwater and recycling projects, saving more than 10 billion litres of water a year."

Major recycling projects in NSW include:

- The Western Sydney Recycled Water Scheme at Penrith creating 27 billion litres of recycled water per year by 2015 by reusing treated sewage from the Penrith, Quakers Hill and St Mary's Sewage Treatment Plants;
- A recycled water plant which is providing 7.3 billion litres of water per year to Blue Scope Steel at Port Kembla – Australia's largest industrial recycling scheme;
- A large scale industrial water recycling plant at Kurnell which will save two billion litres of water a year. The NSW Government is contributing \$5.18 million to the project;
- A \$25 million recycled water plant for Kooragang Island to reuse 3 billion litres of treated effluent a year in heavy industry around Newcastle Harbour; and
- Australia's largest residential recycling scheme at Rouse Hill.

## **SUMMARY OF WATER REUSE PROJECTS AT BOTANY INDUSTRIAL PARK**

**Qenos Pty Ltd**  
**Minimising mains water consumption**  
**Government Funding: \$1,068,500**

This polyethylene manufacturer will install pipework to receive recycled water from Orica's Ground Water Treatment Plant.

The project will save more than two billion litres of water a year when it comes online in 2007.

**Orica Australia Pty Ltd**  
**Reusing treated groundwater**  
**Government funding: \$157,218**

This project has modified Orica's ChlorAlkali Plant to use recycled water.

Water is one of the main raw materials used at the plant to make chemical products for water purification and manufacturing. Pipelines have been installed to transfer the water from the Groundwater Treatment Plant and the water reticulation system has been modified to accept the new treated water supply.

The project will save 85 per cent of the drinking water currently used at the site for manufacturing and will save 186 million litres of water a year.

**Solvay Interlox Pty Ltd**  
**Utilisation of Treated Ground Water for Non-potable Production Applications**  
**Government Funding: \$200,000**

Chemical manufacturer Solvay Interlox will install pipes to receive treated groundwater from Orica to use in its cooling towers and boilers.

It will save more than 200 million litres of water a year when operational early next year.

The balance of recycled water will be made available to other industrial customers in the Botany area.