



# MEDIA RELEASE

**Senator the Hon Penny Wong**

*Minister for Climate Change and Water*

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## **RUDD GOVERNMENT DELIVERS MILLIONS FOR WATER RECYCLING IN ADELAIDE'S SOUTH**

Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator Penny Wong, today visited Christies Beach Treatment Plant to announce formal funding of \$34.5 million for the *Waterproofing the South* project.

The Christies Beach facility is being upgraded to produce high quality recycled water for industry and for watering gardens and playing fields. The project would also see expanded piping infrastructure provide more recycled water for local wineries.

Senator Wong said developing new sources of water is a priority for the Rudd Government.

“Climate change means we need new sources of water that don’t rely entirely on rainfall,” Senator Wong said.

“The Rudd Government is investing \$34.5 million in this recycling project so that businesses and households in the Onkaparinga area have access to water for watering gardens and crops, without drawing on precious supplies of drinking water.”

*Waterproofing the South* is expected to provide close to three billion litres of recycled water once treatment plant works and piping are completed in 2010.

Senator Wong said *Waterproofing the South* would provide essential infrastructure to deliver the Rudd Government’s election commitment to contribute an additional \$3.5 million towards connecting McLaren Vale irrigators to recycled water from Christies Beach.

The McLaren Vale project will connect irrigators to recycled water from the Christies Beach Treatment Plant via the Willunga Basin Water Company pipeline, saving around 500 million litres of drinking water every year.

“The McLaren Vale project is an important election commitment for the Rudd Government and *Waterproofing the South* will allow us to deliver on this important project,” Senator Wong said.

“These two projects take the Rudd Government’s investment in water projects in Southern Adelaide to \$38 million.”

Member for Kingston, Amanda Rishworth, said the water recycling projects would secure jobs and investment for the region.

“This project means local industry will have a secure source of water, even during times of drought,” Ms Rishworth said.

“*Waterproofing the South* will also help clean up local beaches by reducing the amount of wastewater discharged to sea.”