

AUSTRALIAN WATER

ASSOCIATION

MEDIA STATEMENT

Australian Water Association welcomes MoU between Tasmanian Government and TasWater

2 May 2018

The Australian Water Association's Chief Executive Jonathan McKeown has welcomed the new agreement between the State Government of Tasmania, Local Government Owners and TasWater announced yesterday to progress further investment in Tasmania's water and sewerage industry.

"This a great result for the people of Tasmania as it provides the much-needed security to invest up to \$200M in Tasmania's water and sewage systems. This new agreement enables TasWater to accelerate the necessary upgrades to water and sewerage infrastructure, expand service delivery coverage across the state and enable a reduction in forecast price increases to no greater than 3.5%.

"Most importantly, the new governance structure maintains independence for Tasmania's Economic Regulator from the infrastructure investment decisions. It also preserves a clear separation of functions between the State Government's role to determine water policies whilst the Board and management of TasWater remain responsible for the day-to-day operations of the water utility.

"The Australian water industry is supportive of the new model and congratulates the Tasmanian Government for getting it right. The new governance structure announced yesterday aligns comfortably with contemporary and effective governance standards across the national water industry.

"By securing the \$200M investment plan and the new governance structure, the management and Board of TasWater now has a clear path forward to achieve further immediate water infrastructure improvements."

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About the Australian Water Association

With a membership of over 5,000 individual and corporate members, the Australian Water Association is Australia's biggest water network promoting sustainable water management and connecting members through information, networking and recognition.

www.awa.asn.au