

# - PUBLIC NOTICE -

## INQUIRY INTO WATER AND WASTEWATER PRICING PROCESSES

The Treasurer has referred an Inquiry to the Essential Services Commission of SA (the Commission), under Part 7 of the Essential Services Commission Act 2002 (the Act), in the following terms:

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (a) The Commission is to inquire into the processes undertaken in the preparation of advice to Cabinet, resulting in Cabinet making its decision on the level and structure of SA Water's water and wastewater prices in metropolitan and regional South Australia for 2005-06, with respect to the adequacy of the application of CoAG pricing principles;
- (b) In undertaking this inquiry, the Commission is to consider the "Transparency Statement Metropolitan and Regional Water and Wastewater Prices in South Australia 2005-06 (Part A)" dated December 2004;
- (c) In considering the processes undertaken for the preparation of advice to Cabinet, the Commission is to advise on the extent to which information relevant to the CoAG principles was made available to Cabinet.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR INQUIRY:

- (a) The Commission is required to undertake its inquiry and submit a Draft Report to both the Treasurer and the Minister for Administrative Services by no later than 11 March 2005;
- (b) The Commission is required to submit a Final Report on the Inquiry to both the Treasurer and the Minister for Administrative Services by no later than 8 April 2005;
- (c) In conducting the inquiry, the Commission is not required to hold public hearings, public seminars or workshops but may receive and consider any written submissions as it thinks appropriate and it must advertise to call for written submissions to be lodged no later than 14 days from the date of publication of the Notice of Inquiry as required pursuant to section 36 of the Act.

### DIRECTIONS:

The Commission has been directed that in undertaking its enquiry the Commission must preserve the confidentiality of any information, material or documentation provided by Government to enable the Commission to undertake its enquiry and stamped "Strictly Confidential".

### CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

The *Transparency Statement Metropolitan and Regional Water and Wastewater Prices in South Australia 2005-06* is available from the Commission's website at [www.escosa.sa.gov.au](http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au).

Interested parties are invited to make written submissions. Submissions should address the Terms of Reference and where possible, should contain relevant data, documentation and explanation to support the views expressed.

Anyone can make a submission. Written submissions are due Thursday, 3 February 2005.

Please send written submissions to the Commission via mail, electronically via email or on disc to:

Essential Services Commission of SA  
GPO Box 2605, ADELAIDE SA 5001  
Email: [escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au](mailto:escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au)  
Fax: (08) 8463 4449



*All submissions received may be made publicly available via the Commission website except where a particular submission or part of a submission contains information provided on a confidential basis and about which notification has been given.*