

## **Rene Hidding MP**

Shadow Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Member for Lyons

## **Dr Vanessa Goodwin MLC**

Shadow Minister for the Environment

Friday 26 February 2010

---

### **Liberals will ensure water investigation is independent**

The Liberal position on the inquiry into possible contaminants in water in the St Helens area is clear.

We announced last Monday, before the government belatedly acted, that we will initiate a full, independent, scientific investigation into claims of irregular health concerns in humans and marine life on Tasmania's East Coast.

The claims made are serious and deserve to be treated in a way that reflects this. A full and independent investigation is the only appropriate response.

The inquiry the Bartlett Government has announced to be undertaken by the Chairman of the EPA is supported, and we expect that inquiry panel to include appropriately qualified analysts from interstate or overseas who have had no previous involvement in the issue.

Above all it is essential the public have confidence that any probe is based on science and is completely independent.

But in government we are committed to a full scientific investigation, and that position has not changed, and is consistent with our comprehensive policy already announced for better testing for pesticides and chemicals in water throughout the State.

---

For further information or comment please call Ella Woods-Joyce – 0418 338 774