

The Secretary
Legislative council
Parliament House
Hobart

## Submission to Legislative Council select Committee Taswater Ownership

Taswater ownership should remain in the ownership of the Councils for the following reasons—

- 1. Revenue streams provided by Taswater are used by Council to provide those services as essential at a local level. Even though the Government has stated that the Councils will continue to receive 50% of revenue from this source, it still means that Councils will have a shortfall in income. It stands to reason, that this shortfall would need to be made up by increasing rate: subsequently any suggested savings would be negated.
- 2. In the event the Government is successful in taking over Taswater, the \$1.5 billion expenditure, that is, one thousand five hundred million dollars that the Government intends to borrow to accelerate the works program is an extraordinary large sum, this will have to be paid back. Interest on this sum would be substantial, even at todays low rates.
- 3. Given the way the current works program is conducted, which appears to be on a sustainable expenditure and income basis; then why the need for indebitness at a time when the uncertainties of national and international fortune appear to be not on a vary solid foundation.

Yours faithfully

Neil White