

m e d i a   r e l e a s e

**Date:** 2 August 2006

**Subject:** Jounama Small Hydro Power Station Update

## **Jounama Small Hydro Power Station Update**

Snowy Hydro Limited announced in late 2005 that it planned to construct a 14 megawatt (MW) small hydro power station at Jounama Dam.

Work commenced on the Jounama Dam small hydro project in mid March 2006 and progressed well until June 2006, when work was suspended.

CEO and Managing Director, Snowy Hydro Limited, Mr Terry Charlton said: "after the collapse of the Initial Public Offer of Snowy Hydro, all business activities and new initiatives are being reviewed and this includes the viability of the Jounama Dam Project.

"However, this was not the main reason for construction work being suspended. The work stopped on the project due to the higher than expected water levels in the State Water controlled Blowering Reservoir"

"Following a review of the project and discussions with the Tumut Shire Council, we can now announce that any uncertainty over the future of the project can be removed and confirm that the project will go ahead as planned."

Executive Officer Engineering and Projects, Snowy Hydro Limited, Mr Brett Jones said: "site works will recommence in early 2007 when water levels in Blowering Reservoir are expected to not further impact on the project".

"The decision to continue with the project is a terrific result for not only our business but the Tumut region".

Mr Jones confirmed that the designs for the main plant have been now completed and the manufacture of the turbine and generator are progressing in Spain.

Mr Charlton concluded by saying: "Mayor Gene Vanzella was an enthusiastic supporter of the Jounama Dam small hydro project and encouraged Snowy Hydro to do everything possible to ensure that the project went ahead for betterment of the Tumut region. I am pleased that together we have reached a favourable outcome".

This new power-station will enable renewable energy to be economically recovered from the release of waters into the Blowering Reservoir and will be able to generate enough electricity to power over 6000 homes.