

m e d i a r e l e a s e

Date: 11th August 2006

Subject: Jindabyne Dam Update

In response to claims made by the Independent Member for Gippsland East, Mr Craig Ingram, in relation to the sediment spill into the Snowy River at the base of the Jindabyne Dam 10 days ago, Snowy Hydro Limited has taken additional water samples today and yesterday down the entire length of the Snowy River to the coast.

All samples are well within drinking water standard guidelines and are well below guidelines provided by the NSW EPA.

Observations of the full length of the river below Jindabyne Dam to Orbost indicate that the river exhibited normal colouring and that there is no sediment plume or turbidity front. Snowy Hydro Limited is concerned with the health of the river and has been proactive in reducing any possible damage to the environment as a result of this sediment spill. Any suggestion to the contrary is rejected by the Company.

At no stage has there been toxic material of any sort, released by Snowy Hydro Limited into the Snowy River nor has there been tonnes of soil or clay dumped into the river, as has been claimed by clearly uninformed commentators.

Mr Ingram also suggests that Snowy Hydro Limited has breached its Water Licence. This claim is categorically rejected by Snowy Hydro Limited and Mr Ingram has been so advised both by Snowy Hydro Limited and the NSW Government on prior occasions. Snowy Hydro Limited is acting responsibly and within the Snowy Water Licence and its Annual Water Operating Plan (AWOP).

For more information, please call:

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