

m e d i a   r e l e a s e

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008

**Subject:** **Snowy Hydro welcomes decision to expand current cloud seeding program**

Snowy Hydro Limited welcomes the announcement by the NSW Government approving the expansion of its current cloud seeding program in the NSW Snowy Mountains. This decision expands the current target area by approximately 1000 square km and the duration of the program to 2014.

Snowy Hydro has been conducting successful cloud seeding operations within the NSW Snowy Mountains for the past 4 winter seasons. To date, results have been promising with preliminary data supporting the expert's predictions of an average 10% increase in snow falls over a ten year period.

Terry Charlton, Managing Director, Snowy Hydro Limited said: "Snowy Hydro commends the NSW Government on this forward looking decision. This decision has been based on solid physical evidence showing that the current cloud seeding operation is delivering real benefits at a time when climate change is severely impacting the Snowy Mountains region and irrigators on the western rivers."

"This expansion of the current operations provides an opportunity to increase benefits to local enterprises and assist with addressing a water emergency of national significance."

Mr Charlton added: "Cloud seeding is just one part of Snowy Hydro's response to climate change. The company's response also includes an emphasis on recycling water, up to 6000 Olympic sized swimming pools each night at Tumut 3 Power Station, and development of gas fired generation plant. These initiatives were commenced some six years ago in anticipation of the drought that is now being experienced."

Work on the expanded program will commence this coming winter. More information on the Snowy Hydro cloud seeding program can be obtained from our website at [www.snowyhydro.com.au](http://www.snowyhydro.com.au)