

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

Date: 12 February 2009

Subject: **Snowy Hydro and Red Energy donate \$250,000 to Victorian Bushfire Appeal.**

Snowy Hydro is contributing more than \$250,000 to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. This comprises of a donation of \$150,000 to the Red Cross Appeal along with Red Energy, Snowy Hydro's electricity and gas retailing business, donating \$100,000 via the Channel 9 Australia Unites Appeal. Also, Snowy Hydro will match dollar for dollar employee contributions being made through payroll deductions.

Snowy Hydro Managing Director, Mr Terry Charlton said: "With 40% of our staff now based in Victoria, this donation reflects Snowy Hydro's strong support for a region where a growing number of our staff, customers and assets are located. Some of our Red Energy staff had relatives in the bushfire affected areas and there were some concerning moments regarding our gas fired power station near Traralgon."

Snowy Hydro's gas fired power generation facilities at Valley Power near Traralgon and at Laverton North were critical in maintaining electricity supplies to Melbourne during this disaster as high voltage transmission lines were affected by the bushfires.

Snowy Hydro Executive Officer, Sharon Howes said: "Snowy Hydro has set up a payroll deduction system for staff to allow for further personal donations. Snowy Hydro has supported this initiative and funds raised by staff will be matched dollar for dollar by the company on top of the \$250,000 already committed."

Mr Charlton concluded: "Our staff in our Sydney and regional offices wanted to show their personal support, on top of the \$250,000 committed from the company, for their colleagues in Victoria along with our customers and communities affected by this terrible disaster."