



Australian Government
National Water Commission

WATER SMART AUSTRALIA PROGRAMME

2006 INVESTMENTS

Project Information

Water Loss Management Programme for NSW Regional Water Utilities Council-owned water utilities in NSW regional towns

Total funding: \$22.16 million with funding of \$7.39 million plus GST from the Australian Government, \$14.75 million from participating councils and \$20 000 from the Water Directorate Incorporated.

About the project

The project will establish important collective resources for local-government owned water utilities across NSW to enable them to identify, prioritise and undertake on-ground work to reduce water leakage within their systems. The Water Directorate, a professional association for Council owned water utilities, will coordinate the project resources including the development of water loss management implementation guidelines, purchase of specialist water loss detection equipment, a fund for on-ground works to reduce water loss and a small team of skilled specialists to assist with this work.

Project benefits

The project will:

- recover 10 000 to 15 000 megalitres of water per annum by making existing infrastructure more efficient
- prevent or postpone the need to build additional water supply infrastructure, and
- develop understanding and a skills base in water loss management.

The project will advance the National Water Initiative objectives of increasing urban water use efficiency.

About the Australian Government Water Fund

The Australian Government Water Fund is a \$2 billion investment in water solutions for current and future generations. The Fund is a major investment by the Australian Government in water infrastructure, improved water management, and better practices in the stewardship of Australia's scarce water resources. It will create opportunities for industries, for investment and for jobs while at the same time protecting and restoring our environment. The Fund comprises three programmes — the \$1.6 billion Water Smart Australia programme, the \$200 million Raising National Water Standards programme and the \$200 million Community Water Grants programme.

The National Water Commission is an independent statutory body in the Prime Minister's portfolio. Its role is to drive the national water reform agenda.