



2006 STATE ELECTION INITIATIVE

Released on Wednesday 8 March 2006

This 2006 State election initiative is to address immediate and long-term water quality concerns around the State, for both people and the environment.

These funding initiatives demonstrate the implementation of aspects of the Greens' **Water Policy**.

Clean Water Package

Plentiful clean water is crucial to Tasmania's social, economic and environmental well-being. Access to potable drinking water is a fundamental human right. An understanding of catchment capacity and sustainability has been gravely missing from government policy making.

The Greens have pledged a total of \$14.75 million to our Water initiatives:

\$1 million for Phase 1 of the Comprehensive Catchment Audit Program (CCAP)

Audit water interception and hydrological effect of land clearing, plantation establishment as well as accurately mapping future catchment capacity in order to make informed decisions about water allocations.

\$750,000 for Statewide Audit of Chemical Use in Tasmania's Water catchments

The Greens will fund a comprehensive catchment audit of chemicals used in Tasmania's catchments and explore future funding so that the audit is continuous.

Enact Chemical Trespass legislation to protect Tasmanian waterways from chemical contamination

The Greens will reintroduce their chemical trespass legislation voted down by Liberal and Labor during the last period of government.

\$8 million for Better Rural Water and Sewerage (Tourism Policy)

The Greens have set a target for the elimination of 'boil-water' notices. This funding would see joint programs with local government to improve water quality in towns currently suffering from impure drinking water and to develop or improve the treatment and disposal of sewerage.

\$5 million for Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values (CFEV) Project: Stage 2 - Implementation

Freshwater areas are under represented in Tasmania's reserve system.

The Greens would fund Stage 2 of the CFEV project and allocate \$5 million to purchase identified areas currently in private hands, buy back water rights to ensure environmental flows and fund incentive programs to encourage private landholders to manage selected areas for conservation outcomes.