



Government  
of South Australia

# Media Release

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**Hon Jennifer Rankine**

*Minister for State/Local Government Relations*

**Mayor Joy Baluch AM**

*President  
Local Government Association  
Of South Australia*

## **\$35 MILLION WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AGREEMENT**

### **SIGNED**

A \$35 million funding agreement between the State Government and the Local Government Association is set to provide infrastructural certainty for new Community Wastewater Management Systems, which will recycle waste and grey water into water suitable for irrigation.

The agreement, signed today by the Minister for State Local Government Relations, Jennifer Rankine and the President of the LGA, Mayor Joy Baluch AM, guarantees a funding injection of \$35 million for schemes over the nine year life of the agreement and will substantially reduce the number of schemes waiting for new wastewater management systems.

“The schemes will help to reduce reliance on septic tank disposal and storage of waste, as well as introduce an innovative system where waste and grey water can be recycled to use on parks and gardens and in some cases crop irrigation.

Such systems also serve as vital amenities when it comes to small business in rural areas, particularly those involved in the aquaculture, tourism and accommodation sectors which reap the obvious benefits from community wastewater management schemes.”

“Under the new arrangement, Councils applying for funding consideration must also demonstrate they are working within sufficient constraints to sustain and maintain these new sewage schemes into the future,” Ms Rankine said.

LGA President Mayor Joy Baluch said, “The nine-year agreement provided a degree of certainty to the dozens of townships that will receive CWMS funding and would also reduce irrigation reliance on the endangered Murray River system.

“It is excellent news that the partnership between State and Local Government on the CWMS agreement will lead to more SA country towns having a major overhaul of their sewerage disposal systems.”

“Storage of this type of waste in underground systems has been of concern for some time, but Councils have not been in a financial position to install these new waste water management schemes without State Government assistance.

“The new funding agreement allows for a greater certainty for these communities to move towards more suitable methods of treating waste water,” President Baluch said.

President Baluch also said the LGA congratulated the State Government on the nine-year funding agreement and also noted the work done by the LGA and the State Government in encouraging the former Federal Government to commit \$20 million, in 2007, to upgrade existing regional wastewater management systems.