

MEDIA RELEASE

David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra



RECYCLED WATER PROJECT WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Embargoed until Wednesday 30 September 2009

Minister for the Illawarra David Campbell today said Sydney Water had won an international award for its Wollongong Recycled Water Scheme.

The Wollongong Recycled Water Scheme is one of the largest water recycling projects in Australia and won the 2009 WateReuse Award of Merit, at the 24th Annual WateReuse Symposium in Seattle, USA.

Mr Campbell said the award was one of six merit awards presented by the WateReuse Association out of a total of 57 projects which were nominated.

“The Wollongong Recycled Water Scheme replaces drinking water with recycled water for use in industry, irrigation and dust suppression. Already it has reduced drinking water use throughout the Illawarra by 17 per cent,” Mr Campbell said.

“Since 2006, the Scheme has provided up to 7.3 billion litres of high quality recycled water a year to BlueScope Steel and its great to see it this project receiving international recognition.”

Wollongong MP Noreen Hay welcomed the award and congratulated staff at the Wollongong Recycled Water Scheme on their efforts.

“This award is recognition of the great work being carried out right here in Wollongong,” Ms Hay said.

“Earlier this year, an additional recycled water facility at the Wollongong plant was commissioned, allowing the supply of about 1.4 million litres a day of highly treated, disinfected recycled water to the Port Kembla Coal Terminal and Wollongong Golf Club.

“Shortly, this new facility will begin supplying an additional 14 million litres of recycled water a year to Wollongong City Council to irrigate local parks and playing fields.”

Ms Hay said Sydney Water would continue to investigate possibilities to further amplify the scheme in the future.

The WateReuse Association is a US-based nonprofit organisation which aims to advance the beneficial and efficient use of water resources.

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