



Miriam Vale Shire Council

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MIRIAM VALE SHIRE COUNCIL SHORTLISTS DESALINATION CONTENDERS

Miriam Vale Shire Council recently announced that three companies had been shortlisted to tender for the design, construct and operate a desalination plant to provide reticulated water to Agnes Water and 1770.

Mayor Tom Jeffrey said the three companies – Earth Tech Engineering, SunWater and United Utilities – would now have several months to finalise their tenders to enable Council to decide on a preferred tenderer by Christmas 2007.

“As we continue to feel the effects of drought and to cater for continuing growth, Council is committed to implementing a number of solutions to provide a long term sustainable water supply to the townships of Agnes Water and 1770,” Mayor Jeffery said.

“Our priority is the desalination plant which involves a process used throughout the world to convert sea water into drinking water.

“We have chosen a modular design for the plant so we can stage development to meet the growing needs of our community.”

Mayor Jeffrey said Council was planning for construction on the plant to commence in early 2008.

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For further information:

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1/2

Background:

Earth Tech

Earth Tech Engineering Pty. Ltd (Earth Tech) is an affiliate of Earth Tech Inc, a United States corporation with strong experience in the design, construction and operation of water and wastewater treatment facilities. Both companies are wholly owned subsidiaries of Tyco International Ltd (Tyco), a NYSE listed corporation.

Globally Earth Tech has ~8,000 personnel employed in over 130 offices in 15 countries. Earth Tech's annual revenues have averaged approx US\$1.3 billion over the past 4 years. The company has operated in Australia since 1999 and in January 2002 merged with the respected consulting engineering firm Fisher Stewart to form the Asia-Pacific operation of Earth Tech.

SunWater

Since becoming a corporation in 2000, SunWater has established a focused, competitive and highly responsive business, able to respond to the needs of both customers and opportunities being presented in the water industry. As a leader in water infrastructure management the company offers and supports a broad suite of service offerings.

SunWater provides a range of facility management and engineering services to the water industry and its customers, nationally. It has long term management contracts in place with clients across the mining, industrial and local government sectors to ensure safe and sustainable management of assets valued in excess of \$1 billion. These contracts extend through bulk water supply, management of storage, distribution pipelines, water and wastewater treatment and flood operations of dams.

United Utilities

United Utilities Australia was established in 1991 to participate in Australian water industry opportunities being offered in the form of Build-Own-Operate-Transfer projects by the publicly owned water utilities. United Utilities Australia is an environmentally focused company whose charter is to provide cost efficient water and wastewater systems management and operation, along with innovative and sustainable project solutions for customers in the public and private sectors.

United Utilities' philosophy is to provide tailored solutions that best meet customer requirements from the perspective of technology, operations, management of risk and cost over the projected life of any contract. To achieve this objective, United Utilities Australia personnel have operating experience over a wide range of water and wastewater technologies, from conventional to leading edge, and have applied these technologies to industry at large.