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### NEW WATER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTRES FOR SA

Adelaide will soon be home to two new water centres – a learning hub dedicated to educating South Australians about water and a new national headquarters for water quality research.

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald says the two new facilities will be housed in SA Water's 6 Green Star headquarters in Victoria Square, to be complete in September.

“The State Government will invest \$800,000 in building the water education centre and will offer \$350,000 a year in support to host the national research centre, called *Water Quality Research Australia*,” Minister Maywald said.

“Our support for these two centres will ensure we maintain a creative and innovative approach to the challenges of a secure water future for the State and communicating the plan to South Australians.

“The water education centre will include information on our water supply network and displays for all community members from customers and school children through to water industry experts.

“The facility will be a place for people to share, learn, debate and discuss water and environmental issues while improving understanding of water issues and South Australia's plans for water security.”

The new national centre will conduct vital research for the water industry and consumers, such as:

- The health and acceptability aspects of drinking water.
- Management of toxic algal blooms.
- Improving drinking water treatment technologies.
- Water recycling.
- Wastewater treatment.
- Alternative water supplies.

The centre will carry-on the work of the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Quality and Treatment, based in Adelaide for 13 years.

It brings together major Australian water utilities, research members such as the Australian Water Quality Centre and universities around Australia, including the University of Adelaide, University of South Australia and Flinders University.

“SA Water was successful in its bid to host the centre because of the excellent water research facilities in Adelaide and the high level of collaboration between the Government, private sector and South Australian universities on water sciences,” Minister Maywald said.

“The new centre will ensure South Australia continues to have a proud history of pioneering new water technologies and will further reinforce the State’s credentials as a leader in science, technology and innovation.

“Our place at the end of the River Murray and our diverse water sources have posed many water quality challenges in the past 150 years and our creative, innovative approach to these challenges has ensured a reliable and safe water supply for our community.”