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MEDIA RELEASE

FILTERED WATER FOR TUNGKILLO

From today the township of Tungkillo will be able to turn on their taps and taste filtered water.

A new 4.8km pipeline has been constructed from the Mount Pleasant Water Filtration Plant which will transfer filtered water to the existing water network in Tungkillo.

SA Water Outer Metropolitan Service Delivery Manager Steve Rose said this project was part of the State Government's \$50 million Country Water Quality Improvement Program and the first of 17 Riverland and Murraylands communities to be supplied with filtered water by early 2008.

"This project began in June this year and will ensure our regional communities are supplied with better quality drinking water sooner," Mr Rose said.

"Until now, our Tungkillo customers have been supplied with disinfected River Murray water. The filtered water now being supplied from the Mount Pleasant plant will be clearer and have a different taste and odour which people may notice in the coming weeks."

The Mount Pleasant Water Filtration Plant was the first plant in the world to use the revolutionary MIEX® (Magnetic Ion Exchange) process.

"MIEX® reduces dissolved organic carbon, which is the main cause of colour, taste and odour in drinking water. Put simply, it works like a magnet, attracting dissolved matter in the water. By removing these undesirables there is less need for chlorine, the water is clearer and the taste is improved." Mr Rose said.

Throughout the pipeline's construction process, SA Water has worked with the community, local councils and other stakeholders to ensure awareness of the change in water source and to ensure little impact on community activity.

"During routine pressure testing of the new pipeline, there was some non-potable water which needed to be flushed. In consultation with the Mid-Murray Council, we carted this water to the Palmer Oval for watering purposes," Mr Rose said.

"In the current drought we understand that all water is precious and in this case we wanted to make sure it was not wasted, but used for a practical purpose. The solution of carting it to the Palmer Oval provided a benefit for the whole district and avoided wastage."