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## MEDIA RELEASE

# Green Stars for SA Water's Mount Barker Office

SA Water's new Mount Barker office has set a benchmark for environmentally friendly building design in the Adelaide Hills after recently receiving the region's first 5 Star Green Star rating from the Green Building Council of Australia.

The building has been awarded the rating for its office design.

SA Water's Outer Metro Service Delivery Manager Steve Rose says the new building will be a showcase for sustainable development and design in South Australia.

"This building demonstrates SA Water's commitment to managing our ecological footprint," Mr Rose said.

"We are always looking to improve the way we operate. Working from a Green Star building everyday will be a constant reminder to all staff and visitors about our environmental responsibility."

Some of the Green Star assets at the site will be:

- Fully insulated roof and wall structures
- Solar hot water systems
- Low energy lighting systems
- Air conditioning with environmentally friendly refrigerants and low energy inverter control
- Decoration with low VOC (volatile organic compounds) paints
- Workstations and carpet which can be recycled when they are no longer required
- Rainwater reuse for toilets, washing and irrigation
- Low energy and water use appliances
- Native landscaping

The Mount Barker office will bring together 40 employees from existing depots in Murray Bridge, Nuriootpa and Happy Valley and will feature an open office plan, meal area and meeting rooms.

Work on the site began in November 2007 and is expected to be complete by the end of June 2008.

The Green Star rating system was developed by the Green Building Council of Australia and rates buildings against environmental impact categories, including energy and water efficiency, indoor environment quality and emissions. It was created to raise awareness about the benefits of green building, recognise and reward environmental leadership and reduce the environmental impact of development.

Green Building Council of Australia Chief Executive Romilly Madew says this project is an important step to encourage other projects outside of the CBD to incorporate environmental initiatives.

"SA Water has made great commitments to sustainability, with Green Star certified buildings in both Adelaide CBD and now Mount Barker. The organisation is really leading the way in South Australia," Ms Madew said.

The new building was designed by architects Grieve Gillett and built by Badge Constructions (SA) to ensure it achieved the GBCA and State Government requirements.