

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

### **FOUR BIDDERS VIE FOR DESAL CARBON NEUTRAL CONTRACT**

Four energy suppliers have been short-listed to deliver on the State Government's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality for the Adelaide desalination plant.

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald says the four companies are AGL, International Power, Momentum Energy, and Trust Power.

"These companies responded to a call late last year for expressions of interest in achieving carbon neutrality for the plant and will now submit full proposals for the contract," she said.

"The State Government is absolutely committed to the plant being carbon neutral and meeting the highest environmental standards.

"The bidders will submit proposals for off-site renewable energy generation, which will provide flexibility in the contract's terms of energy use, future expansion provision and price certainty.

"Direct on-site renewable energy generation at the scale required for the plant's operation is not feasible because of site constraints. However, small-scale renewable energy will be part of the desalination plant and marine works and will aim to meet lighting and smaller non-process needs.

"The Adelaide Desalination Project Steering Committee has rigorously evaluated the benefits and issues associated with all of the methods put forward by the respondents to achieve carbon neutrality.

"Also inline with our sustainability commitment, the buildings to be constructed for the project have been designed to create the optimum working environment with minimum energy use.

"Site preparation works are continuing at Port Stanvac and construction of the 50-gigalitre plant, which will supply one-quarter of Adelaide's water needs, is on track to begin next month."

