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Att: Chief of Staff; News Editor*

Media Release

Hobart Water announces new board members

Business Consultant, Elizabeth Thomas, and Engineer, Graham O'Byrne, will join Hobart Water as Board members on 1 January 2007.

Making the announcement, Chairman of the Joint Authority, Ald John Freeman said the new members would bring strong technical and business experience to Hobart Water's board.

"Since Hobart Water's evolution into a local government-owned business in 1997, its Board has played an important role in translating the Joint Authority's policies into robust business strategies," Ald. Freeman said.

"While the organisation's role as the state's largest supplier of bulk water remains unchanged, new business opportunities on the horizon are being pursued and the board will continue to play an important role in guiding future directions. Ms Thomas and Mr O'Byrne will bring fresh perspectives and different experiences to the Board."

Elizabeth Thomas is a self employed business consultant specialising in strategic and business planning, management, leadership coaching and development.

Ms Thomas holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Tasmania (UTAS) and after working in Hobart, Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne, was the first woman and youngest person to be appointed Public Trustee in Tasmania. While Chief Executive Officer of the Public Trustee, Ms Thomas was responsible for taking the operations of the Public Trustee Office to a self funding, commercially viable government business enterprise.

She is a Director on the board of The Public Trustee and a member of the Police Review Board and the Tasmanian Gaming Commission.

Graeme O'Byrne has 20 years experience as a director, manager and consulting engineer. Currently employed as Production Manager for Impact Fertilisers, Mr O'Byrne has previously worked for Hydro Tasmania, Ionik Consulting in Melbourne, and local engineering firms Pitt & Sherry, and Johnstone McGee and Gandy.

Holding a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil/Structural) from UTAS, Mr O'Byrne has worked on a range of significant projects in Tasmania, including the Inveresk Railyards redevelopment, Grand Chancellor Hotel Launceston and Bellerive Oval redevelopment. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Engineers, Australia.

Elizabeth and Graham will replace outgoing board members, Ernie Hacker, who has transferred with Norske Skog to New Zealand, and Jayne Wilson, whose term with Hobart Water will end in December.

ENDS

Media contact:

For further information please contact Hobart Water's Marketing & Community Relations Manager, **Tiziana Botti** on **6233 2230** or **0409 421 080**.