



*Att: Chief of Staff; Editor  
13 October 2006*

## News Release

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### Water testing results - Derwent River

Routine testing of water supplies in the upper Derwent estuary identified very low levels of the herbicide, atrazine.

Subsequent tests by Hobart Water have detected no further traces.

The water samples, taken at Hobart Water's Bryn Estyn Treatment Plant, were tested at an independent laboratory.

The level of the herbicide was 500 times below the health guideline limit set by the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

The Director of Public Health confirms the level of herbicide is very low and poses no risk to public health.

Atrazine is used in primary industry to control broadleaf as well as grassy weeds, and has not previously been detected in the Derwent River.

**ENDS**

**Media contact:** For more information or to arrange for an interview, please contact **Tiziana Botti** on **0409 421 080**.