



# Media Release

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## **SENATOR PENNY WONG**

**Minister for Climate Change and Water**

## **PETER GARRETT MP**

**Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts**

## **JODIE CAMPBELL MP**

**Member for Bass**

22 September 2009

### **\$788,000 GREEN PRECINCTS FUNDING FOR LAUNCESTON CITY COUNCIL**

A high-profile *Green Precincts* project demonstrating innovative water and energy saving initiatives will receive \$788,000 in Rudd Government funding.

Minister for Climate Change and Water, Penny Wong, Environment Minister Peter Garrett, and Federal Member for Bass, Jodie Campbell announced that Launceston City Council would receive funding for its *Greening Inveresk Precinct* project.

“The funding will assist the Launceston City Council to retrofit a unique arts and sport precinct in Inveresk with the latest energy and water saving technologies,” Ms Campbell said.

Senator Wong said a groundwater and rainwater harvesting system and irrigation sensors would help reduce water use by 25 per cent.

“As we work to tackle climate change, projects like this will be increasingly important to provide tangible examples to other organisations looking for ways to reduce their water and energy use,” Senator Wong said.

Minister Garrett said several energy saving technologies including lighting upgrades for more efficient energy use and an air conditioning system would also be upgraded.

“The Council will install a building management system at Aurora Stadium, which will save 220,000 kilowatt-hours each year,” Minister Garrett said.

“The *Greening Inveresk Precinct* project will allow the Council to save an estimated total of 531,470 kilowatt-hours a year and reduce carbon emissions by 60 tonnes, which is equivalent to taking 17 cars off the road each year.”

Ms Campbell said more than 325,000 people visit the Aurora Stadium and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery each year. Aurora Stadium is a multi-purpose venue that hosts large entertainment and sporting events, including the Hawthorn Football Club’s Tasmanian home games.

The Council will coordinate sustainability events, demonstration days, tours, lectures and workshops to involve local businesses, sporting groups and the community.

The *Greening Inveresk Precincts* project is one of 13 projects supported by the Rudd Government’s *Green Precincts Fund*, an initiative to prepare Australia for a future with less water and to encourage local communities to better manage their water and energy use.