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Premier's Award recognition of great commitment of staff to their community

ETSA Utilities CEO Lew Owens has welcomed news that ETSA Utilities has received a Premier's Business Award for Volunteering today, saying it reflects the high level of commitment to volunteering amongst the organisation's 1,800 staff.

"Our staff are very committed to working in and supporting the community, I am often humbled by the efforts of individual staff and staff collectively to help others," Mr Owens said.

"The Premier's Award recognises our corporate support for Mary Potter Hospice and specifically the 'Loving Tree' project. We have had a long-term relationship with Mary Potter, which does a very important job in supporting cancer patients and their families.

"Our staff also work countless hours behind the scenes raising donations for charity and volunteering with community organisations. For example, in February staff raised almost \$44,000 for the Victorian bushfire appeal, which was matched by ETSA Utilities."

In 2008, through the ETSA Utilities Employee Foundation, staff volunteered for a number of initiatives including refurbishment of Catherine House, which provides supported accommodation for women; serving breakfasts for the homeless at the Hutt Street Centre; assisting in the management of the Mary Potter Foundation's 'Walk for Love' and 'Hi Tea with Mary'; and delivering Uniting Care Wesley Christmas hampers.

Through donations and fundraising activities, the Foundation also distributed \$47,000 in 2008, with all donations matched by corporate contributions from ETSA Utilities.

Foundation volunteers have just completed refurbishment of a family room at the Mary Potter Hospice and are continuing to work with the Hutt Street Centre and Uniting Care Wesley.

Other initiatives in 2009 include assisting the Cancer Council SA refurbish its Flinders Lodge facility for cancer patients; and helping restore remnant vegetation and wildlife to the Para Woodland Reserve, a 321ha reserve north of Adelaide.

Media contact: Paul Roberts 0403 582 500

About ETSA Utilities

ETSA Utilities is South Australia's electricity distributor, delivering energy from the transmission network through poles, wires, substations and transformers to about 800,000 customers. With more than 60 years experience, we are one of South Australia's largest organisations, employing more than 1750 people throughout metropolitan and regional South Australia.

ETSA Utilities is 51 percent owned by Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited and Hongkong Electric Holdings, which form part of the Cheung Kong Group of companies. The remaining 49 percent is owned by Spark Infrastructure, which began trading on the ASX in December 2005.