



Information Circular No: **2010/26** Date: 30 September 2010

TO: SENATORS, MEMBERS AND ALL OTHER BUILDING OCCUPANTS

Reactivation of selected water features for Parliament House

1 The Department of Parliamentary Services is pleased to advise that we are now able to reactivate some of the water features around Parliament House. The first features to be reactivated are in the courtyard just north of the House of Representatives Chamber.

2 Over coming months we will also reactivate the water feature in the courtyard just north of the Senate Chamber (Aussies courtyard), and the water feature in the formal gardens to the east of the House of Representatives entrance.

3 The source of water for these water features is treated water from the building's cooling tower. This waste water is now being treated by a "Reverse Osmosis" plant, which cleans the water through a filtration plant. The water also passes through an Ultra Violet (UV) lamp, which provides an additional level of disinfection.

4 Water from the new treatment plant is also being used to supply the water feature in the public forecourt of the building, thus removing the cost of transporting truckloads of treated water from the Lower Molonglo Treatment Plant to supply that feature.

5 Current water restrictions for the ACT do not permit use of tap water for our water features. If water restrictions in the ACT are further relaxed, we will assess whether it is feasible to reactivate more water features.

6 I am sure all building occupants will wish to thank the DPS staff who are now reactivating the water features using treated water.

Alan Thompson
Secretary