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Secretary:	<u> </u>

Urimat.

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Committee Secretary Standing Committee on Environment & Heritage House of Representatives PO Box 6021 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

30 August 2007

Dear Committee Members

Submission for Inclusion in the Green Voucher Programme

First of all we would like to apologise to the members for this late submission regarding the Green Vouchers for Schools Programme. Following a meeting with Dr. Mal Washer, Member for Moore, WA and Chairman of this committee we were motivated to present this submission.

As a distributor of waterless urinals, Urimat Australia wholeheartedly supports the green voucher scheme, enabling schools to implement sustainable initiatives and lead future generations by their example. Government lead initiatives such as this not only pave the way to a more sustainable future they also bring about changes in industry as manufacturers are forced to invent more efficient and sustainable products.

We would like to see waterless urinals included in the scheme which (as far as we are aware) only includes rainwater tanks and solar heating. We believe that these are not necessarily the most cost effective examples of saving water or energy for schools.

Rainwater tanks or waterless urinals for schools?

The rainwater tank is of course dependant on rainfall which varies greatly from state to state and month to month. Waterless urinals are not dependant on the climate and will save water no matter where they are. The inclusion of waterless urinals in the programme could offer a benefit to schools as it would give each school the choice of a water-saving solution that is the most efficient for them.



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Cost: rainwater tank / waterless urinal

The cost of installing a 10kL rainwater tank is an average of \$ 3713. Source: (A report by Marsden Jacob Associates commissioned by the National Water Commission - April 2007).

By comparison the cost of installing a waterless urinal which can save up to 150kL of water every year is between \$1100 and \$1500.

Table 1: Water saving with rainwater tank by City

Tank Size	10kL		
Roof Area	50m2	200m2	
Citys	kL		
Brisbane	42	100	
Sydney	38	59	
Melbourne	24	63	
Adelaide	22	56	
Perth	24	48	

Source: (A report by Marsden Jacob Associates commissioned by the National Water Commission - April 2007).

Summary:

For less than half the price of a rainwater tank a waterless urinal is able to save at least the same volume of water. Only Brisbane (see table below) is able to achieve a more or less acceptable figure, bearing in mind they are spending twice the money for a rainwater tank compared to a waterless urinal.

To give the members of the committee an idea of how efficient a waterless urinal is compared to a rainwater tank please see Table 2 below. The expectation of costeffectiveness for a school in Adelaide, Perth or in Brisbane may be the same when receiving the Green Voucher, but as the figures show, this is sadly not the case.

Table 2: Cost per kL over a period of 10 years for water tank / waterless urinal

	Rainwater Tank 10kL (Cost \$3713)		Waterless Urinal (Cost \$1500)	
Roof Area	50m2	200m2		
Cities	Cost per kL			
Brisbane	\$ 8.84	\$ 3.71	\$1.00	
Sydney	\$ 9.77	\$ 6.29	\$1.00	
Melbourne	\$ 15.47	\$ 5.89	\$1.00	
Adelaide	\$ 16.88	\$ 6.63	\$1.00	
Perth	\$ 15.47	\$ 7.74	\$1.00	

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Notes: <u>Rainwater Tank</u> Cost per kL = <u>Cost (\$3713) / (figures kL Table1)</u> 10 years

10 years

<u>Waterless Urinal</u> Cost per kL = <u>Cost (\$1500) / 150kL</u> 10 years

Conclusion

A waterless urinal can be 3.7 to 16.88 times more efficient than a rainwater tank and will save the same amount of water no matter where in Australia they are installed.

Surely we have a responsibility to teach our children not only about using our natural resources efficiently but also to teach them about managing finances effectively.

This is a wonderful initiative, and one which will dramatically alter the legacy we leave our children. It would be a great shame to leave them uninformed of all the options.

Yours sincerely

Peter Spaeni General Manager

For and on behalf of URIMAT Australia Pty Ltd.

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