

13 April 2006

## **LEIGHTON HOLDINGS DIGS DEEP FOR LANDCARE AUSTRALIA'S CYCLONE LARRY APPEAL**

Leighton Holdings today announced a donation of \$50,000 towards Landcare Australia's "Landcare for Larry" appeal to regenerate the land and waterways of Far North Queensland recently devastated by Cyclone Larry.

A partner with Landcare Australia for the last seven years, Leighton Holdings has again demonstrated its long-term commitment to the communities it works within by pitching in with a cash donation of \$50,000 to the appeal.

Mr Wal King, Chief Executive Officer of Leighton Holdings, said that the donation to Landcare Australia's "Landcare for Larry" appeal recognises the importance of companies in the development and construction industry working together with the local communities in Far North Queensland to get them back on their feet.

"By teaming up with Landcare Australia, we are able to support local efforts to tackle one of the most destructive natural disasters of our time, and help to rebuild the communities that have lost so much," said Mr King.

"Landcare is all about partnerships - and that's exactly what we're seeing here. I'd like to thank Leighton Holdings for their quick response to the appeal," said Landcare Australia CEO Brian Scarsbrick.

"You may not live in Innisfail or Townsville, or even know anybody from there, but the fact is something as immense as Cyclone Larry impacts on us all.

"We all saw the images on television and the statistics are frightening – a large percentage of the nation's banana crops were lost, local waterways are now choked in sediment, and some of our most treasured, world heritage-listed rainforests were decimated. When you consider the impact of this on Australia's agriculture and tourism industries, it resonates as far as Hobart or Perth," Mr Scarsbrick continued.

Landcare Australia Limited (LAL) will manage the distribution of funds to farmers, landholders and local community groups, and has been working with the Far North Queensland Natural Resource Management (FNQ NRM) body and other stakeholders to establish a clear picture of the damage that has occurred and the priority areas for landcare reparations in the region.

Leighton Holdings has previously worked with Landcare to fund salinity abatement projects throughout Australia, including the Burdekin Shire in North Queensland.

To donate to the 'Landcare for Larry' appeal, go to [www.landcareonline.com](http://www.landcareonline.com), call **1800 441 533** (proudly supported by Telstra Country Wide) or go to your local **Australia Post** office.

**Issued by Leighton Holdings Limited** ABN 57 004 482 982 [www.leighton.com.au](http://www.leighton.com.au)

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**LEIGHTON HOLDINGS LIMITED** is the parent company of Australia's largest project development and contracting group. Founded in 1949, the organisation has grown into a diversified group that includes Thiess, Leighton Contractors, Leighton Asia, John Holland and Leighton Properties. Leighton Holdings is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and has its head office in Sydney.

**Landcare Australia** was created by the Australian Government in 1989 to raise awareness and sponsorship support for the Landcare movement nationally. Landcare Australia is a not-for-profit organisation based in Sydney whose administration is funded by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AGDAFF).