Media Release

Willem Westra van Holthe, Member for Katherine
Deputy Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Minister for Essential Services

**Smart water meters bring big savings**

2 May 2015

Residents in Ali Curung and Epenarra have made big savings on their water bills, recording the minimum water consumption on record over a three month period (December 2014-February 2015).

Minister for Essential Services Willem Westra van Holthe congratulated the communities on their fantastic water saving efforts.

“The Country Liberals Government has worked hard to bring down the cost of living for Territorians. The introduction of smart water meters by Power and Water Corporation’s Indigenous Essential Services has made it easier for around 900 residents in communities to achieve major savings,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“The smart water meters help households and businesses become more aware of how and when they use their water and gives Power and Water staff the ability to quickly identify leaks or overuse at a specific location and work with customers to fix leaks and reduce consumption.

“Thanks to the smart meters, Epenarra’s bulk consumption went from nine megalitres in 2012-13 to four in 2014-15, while Ali Curung’s consumption went from 55 megalitres in 2012-13 to just over 30 megalitres in 2014-15.

“Compared with the same three month period in the previous year, we’ve seen overall water savings of 50 per cent in Epenarra and a 29 per cent reduction in Ali Curung,” he said.

Demand management is also a critical tool used by Power and Water to assist residents in communities. The work at Epenarra and Ali Curung adds to programs undertaken at Gunbalanya, Milingimbi and Santa Teresa.

The Indigenous Essential Services *Manymak Energy Efficiency Program* in East Arnhem Land is also helping householders in six communities become more aware of energy and water use and includes the installation of energy saving devices.

More information can be found at [www.powerandwater.com.au](http://www.powerandwater.com.au)

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