

## AVOCA – ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY

TUESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2011

Ben Lomond Water Chief Executive Officer Barry Cash said today the water corporation was working closely with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) following the detection of low levels of Cadmium in the drinking water supply in Avoca.

Ben Lomond Water has a routine testing program of its water supply schemes. This includes testing for pesticides and a range of other chemicals and compounds. The program identified the low levels of Cadmium at Avoca.

“Regular tests detected low levels of the metal in the water,” Mr Cash said.

“The level slightly exceeds the Australian Drinking Water Guideline value (0.002mg/L) and the advice Ben Lomond Water has received from DHHS indicates it poses negligible public health risk.

“We have consulted with the Department of Health and Human Services and it is supportive of our actions to provide the community of Avoca with an alternative water supply until the Cadmium level recedes,” Mr Cash said.

Ben Lomond Water is carting supplies from Longford and is asking residents to limit where possible their use of water.

This is the second time Cadmium has been found after low levels were detected more than a year ago. The corporation will begin investigating long term solutions.

ENDS

For further information – Sophie Murphy – 0409 181 796