



## John Kaye MLC

Member of the Legislative Council  
Parliament of New South Wales

7 May 2010

Sally McManus  
Australian Services Union of NSW  
PO Box 1865  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Dear Sally,

Thank you for your letter requesting a position statement on the privatisation of the state-owned water utilities. My colleague Lee Rhiannon asked me to respond on behalf of the Greens NSW.

The Greens unequivocally oppose the full or part privatisation of any state-owned water, including water utilities and any undertaking thereof.

Privatising water utilities would reduce the ability of government to act to secure supplies and keep costs to consumers to a minimum. The key focus should be on improving efficiency and recycling, which are best done by public sector agencies. Private water companies will be profit driven, seeking to sell more water, not conserve it.

The Greens are deeply concerned about the impact on working conditions, jobs and training opportunities that would result from privatising water utilities. The preservation and development of expertise is essential to guarantee the safe supply of water. A privatised water supply would certainly result in jobs losses and a decline in working conditions.

The Greens are enthusiastic to work with other organisations to make the 2011 elections about expanding an innovative public sector, not about selling essential services.

Yours sincerely,

John Kaye

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