



## Media Release

Embargoed until Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2007

### **ACT's Australian Ethical Investment wins Resource Recovery award at the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards**

Australian Ethical Investment (AEI) has won the Resource Recovery award at the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards held in Canberra last night.

The Sustainable Cities program recognises the efforts of residents, community groups, businesses and government agencies to help protect their local environment. The program is part of the Keep Australia Beautiful 'Australian Sustainable Communities' Awards which also includes the Tidy Towns and Clean Beaches programmes.

According to Dick Olesinski, Sustainable Cities National Judge, the refurbishment of Trevor Pearcey House, AEI's new head office, transformed an existing building and set a new standard on how a world's best practice green building can be achieved on a conventional budget.

"This project was undertaken using accepted conventional and low technology design principles, technologies and materials which can be easily transferred to other projects," Olesinski said.

"Most refurbishment projects see existing internal fit outs as either waste to landfill, or materials to be recycled off site, often at their lowest value. Substantial amounts of materials were reused in the new fit out, helping avoid the purchase of new materials. For example, 2.5 tonnes of steel was reused in the refurbishment.

"The building has been modelled to achieve a 47% better than 5 star Australian Building Greenhouse Rating, which is 75% better than the original building. A submission has also been made to the Green Building Council of Australia to achieve a 'World Leader' 6 star Green Star Office Design rating," he added.

Highlighting the importance of these awards, Keep Australia Beautiful National Chairman, Don Chambers, said:

"With climate change and water conservation at the forefront of social and political agendas it is clear that all Australians must make real changes, not just a token effort, to become a more sustainable society.

"These awards not only focus on environmental sustainability, but also take into account the economic and social growth of local communities, providing strong case studies and setting benchmarks for others to follow," he added.

**The 2007 Australian Sustainable Cities Award winners are:**

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<b>Program or Category</b>	<b>Award Winner</b>	<b>Category Sponsor</b>
Overall Winner	Melton, VIC	HUNGRY JACK'S ®
Heritage & Culture	Burnie, TAS	
Community Action	Melton, VIC	Truelocal.com.au
Environmental Innovation	National Lifestyle Villages, WA	
Water Conservation	Port Augusta, SA	
Litter Prevention	Brisbane, QLD	HUNGRY JACK'S ®
Resource Recovery	Australian Ethical Investments for Trevor Pearcey House, ACT	
Community Partnership	Randwick, NSW	Bunnings Warehouse
Protection of the Environment	Melton, VIC	
Young Legends	Randwick, NSW	Coca-Cola
Dame Phyllis Frost - Winner	Lexie Paul - Burnie, TAS	
Dame Phyllis Frost - Commendation	Nora Peters – Melton, VIC	

Further information about the Sustainable Cities Awards and details about each of the national finalists/category winners can be found at [www.kab.org.au](http://www.kab.org.au)

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**Media Contacts:**

Keep Australia Beautiful - Lara Shannon  
M: 0415 076 015 or E: [laras@kab.org.au](mailto:laras@kab.org.au)

Australian Ethical Investment – Adam Verwey  
T: 02 6201 1926 or E: [adam@austethical.com.au](mailto:adam@austethical.com.au)

**Please respect 28 Oct embargo date when discussing award particulars with category winners.**

**Editor's Notes:**

The Principal Sponsor of Sustainable Cities is the Hungry Jack's ® 'Bag it and Bin it' program. Category Sponsors include [truelocal.com.au](http://truelocal.com.au), Bunnings Warehouse and Coca-Cola. Any mention of our sponsors is greatly appreciated.