



## Rural Landowner Prosecuted

A rural property owner at Woomelang has been prosecuted for removing a water meter, interfering with a water meter and illegally taking water.

The matter was heard at the Hopetoun Magistrates' Court where GWMWater tendered evidence that the offences were discovered during an inspection outside the normal meter reading schedule.

The evidence and supporting argument was accepted by the Magistrate and the charges were proven. The landowner was sentenced to a six month good behaviour bond and ordered to pay GWMWater's costs of \$3,500.

The Corporation's action in pursuing the matter was acknowledged by the Magistrate who commented from the bench "that such a prosecution was appropriate and warranted."

GWMWater Managing Director, Jeff Rigby, said "this is the fifth case that GWMWater has successfully brought before the courts within the last 12 months and emphasises the seriousness of tampering with water meters and the taking of water by illegal means."

"GWMWater will continue to be vigilant and will not hesitate to prosecute should a situation warrant again in the future", he said.

End of media release

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**Distribution:** All regional media

**Date:** 29 June 2010

