



MEDIA RELEASE

JULIA GILLARD M.P.

Member for Lalor

Deputy Labor Leader

Shadow Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

Shadow Minister for Social Inclusion

Local water saving invention 'FixAFlush' brought to the attention of Federal Parliament

Local Hoppers Crossing business Redmond Repetition Engineers, had their innovative new product 'FixAFlush' raised in Parliament this morning, as Ms Julia Gillard, Member for Lalor, dedicated a speech to the water saving product.

The device, which allows the user to control exactly how long the toilet flushes for, can save up to 70,000 litres of water a year when installed in just one older style toilet.

Ms Gillard expressed her pride for the local water saving invention, and also for the Redmond family who employ 43 skilled employees, as she recommended the product for the consideration of other members and the Australian public.

**Speech attached*

For further information please contact Erin Dale on 9742 5800/ 0418 339 582

Date: Wednesday 23rd May 2007

23/05/2007 09:30:00

TIMES PUBLICATIONS

Ms GILLARD (Lalor) (9.30 am)—In my electorate of Lalor and right around the country people are concerned about saving water. They are concerned about climate change, they are concerned about water and they are doing their part. Redmond Repetition Engineers is in my electorate. It was founded in 1981 by John and Marlene Redmond and it continues to operate to this day as a family owned and operated business in Hoppers Crossing in my electorate of Lalor. Since its origins in the family garage, the business has expanded to what it is today—a leading Victorian repetition engineering company employing 43 skilled employees and operating from a complex of 4,000 square metres that houses three modern purpose-built repetition factories. One of their newest inventions and the reason for me drawing this to the parliament's attention today is a product called FixAFlush. This product was originally designed to deal with the problem of toilets continuing to run water after they have been flushed—a problem I am sure we are all familiar with, a problem that wastes a lot of water. The insertion of the FixAFlush device into the top of the outlet valve fixes that problem.

However, it was discovered that this device enables you to control the amount of water that is used in a flush of the toilet because the toilet will only continue to flush for the amount of time that you hold your hand on the button. Consequently this has a major application for those households that still have old single-flush toilets, and the installation of this device means that instead of having to use the full amount of water in the cistern each time you flush the toilet, you can control the amount of water that is used.

I understand that installing one of these devices in an old style toilet can save as much as 70,000 litres of water a year—70,000 litres. But this actually has an application too for dual-flush toilets. Obviously, they are on two settings—half flush or full flush—but with the

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installation of this device you can control exactly for how long the toilet flushes. There are occasions where less than a half flush is required to do the job, if I can use that terminology. Consequently, this is a device that can save water in all Australian homes. It is a great local invention in my local electorate of Lalor. We are obviously hugely proud of it. We are proud of the Redmond family. We are proud of the fact that they continue to manufacture in my electorate and I recommend it for the consideration of members here. The Redmonds are in Parliament House today.



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Julia Gillard MP



Federal Member for Lalor
Deputy Labor Leader
Shadow Minister for Employment & Industrial Relations
Shadow Minister for Social Inclusion

**John and Peter Redmond
Redmond Repetition Engineering
PO BOX 1111
Werribee Plaza
VICTORIA Australia 3030**

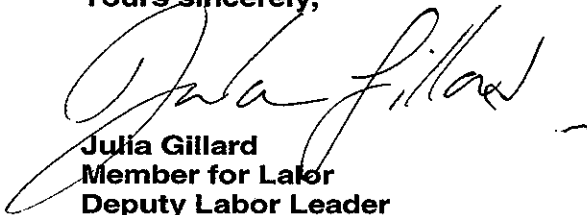
Tuesday 30th October 2007

Dear John and Peter,

As requested, please find enclosed a letter which I have send to Anthony Albanese MP, Federal Labor's Shadow Minister for Infrastructure & Water regarding the feasibility of ALP support for your innovative water saving fix-a-flush product.

Best wishes in future.

Yours sincerely,


**Julia Gillard
Member for Lalor
Deputy Labor Leader**

Always putting our community first.



Where every second counts.

The Honorable John Thwaites
Minister for Water
Parliament House
Spring Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

20 October 2006

Dear Mr. Thwaites

I am following up on a conversation that we had whilst you were at my factory in July this year launching the "Grow Me The Money" initiative.

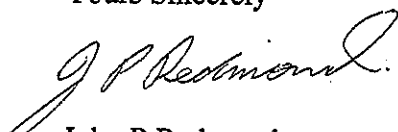
I indicated to you that we were involved with a local inventor "Peter Gwynn" in developing a water saving device called "FixAFlush" which has the potential to greatly reduce the amount of water used by the everyday toilet. The product was displayed on the Channel 9 news on the evening of Wednesday 18 October and responses to the product have been very favorable.

Mr. Thwaites, we have received a number of enquiries from various shires within the State with a view to purchasing this cheap but effective water saver for distribution to their residents. In view of the critical situation regarding the shortage of water in this State, and the ability of this unit to save between **15,000 and 55,000 litres per annum** for every toilet in the State, I would ask that you throw your full support and that of the Government behind this product and support all shires, councils and other organizations interested in purchasing the unit and distributing it to their residents.

Both Peter and I would be only too happy to meet with you and/or your staff to discuss this product and the methods by which we can get this product into all Victorian and Australian homes, so that we can conserve our precious water resources for future generations.

I can be contacted at the office on 93609666 and on mobile on 0411 192949 and Peter can be contacted on 0412 533658.

Yours Sincerely



John P Redmond