



Media Release – February 23, 2008

Catholic Earthcare's Call to Earth Hour 2009

"Catholic Earthcare Australia fully supports the WWF Earth hour initiative and we are encouraging individual Catholics and Catholic communities to act responsibly with God's creation by reducing personal and communal electricity usage," Jacqui Remond announced today.

Jacqui Remond, Director of Catholic Earthcare, said that Catholic Earthcare's position is based on the principle that Earth's atmosphere, as with all of creation, is a gift from God.

"As Catholics we are called to love, respect and care for Earth's atmosphere knowing that it is a unique gift from God. As far as we know there is no other place in the Universe that has an atmosphere enabling life to flourish as it does on Earth.

"The Earth Hour initiative calls us to act in solidarity with our friends in the Pacific and our fellow Australians in the Torres Strait who are watching their countries being covered by sea water. We are also being called to give thanks and show great love for God's life-giving handiwork by participating in Earth Hour.

"By registering and observing Earth Hour on Saturday 28th March we will demonstrate our deep concern for the damage that we now understand is being driven by industrialised lifestyles on planet Earth. We will also be signifying our need to be in right relationship with God's Creation at home, in our schools, at our churches and our places of work."

To find out more about Catholic Earthcare Australia, please visit www.catholicearthcare.org.au

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Catholic Earthcare Australia is an agency of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference