



18 January 2019

Attn: News Editors, Producers

For publication immediately

Media Release

DNA fingerprinting result – indicates non-human source

DNA testing of the spike in *E.coli* at Blackmans Bay Beach last week indicates that it is not human faecal matter. DNA fingerprinting undertaken at the Australian Water Quality Centre in Adelaide received on Friday demonstrates that the *E.coli* most likely originated from one of the following sources:

- Birds, fish, reptiles and mammals
- Environmental Herbivore

“This virtually eliminates humans as the source of the *E.coli* spike” said TasWater CEO Mike Brewster. “However, TasWater will continue to collaborate with councils, Derwent Estuary Program and the Environment Protection Authority in maintaining the water quality of beaches on the Derwent.”

Testing and monitoring of environmental conditions continue.

ENDS