

## MEDIA RELEASE

### EnviroDevelopments gain seal of approval

Four EnviroDevelopment certified projects were recognized at the elite 2007 UDIA Suncorp Queensland Awards for Excellence held in Brisbane last night (June 22).

EnviroDevelopments The EcoVillage at Currumbin and Pacific Harbor claimed top honours in three UDIA categories with Coomera Waters and Toowoomba development Trevean Gardens named as finalists on the night.

UDIA (Qld) President Mr Brent Hailey said it was note-worthy that the EnviroDevelopment projects – already certified for their top environmental credentials – were winning recognition for their excellence in a mainstream capacity.

“Our EnviroDevelopment projects have made a commitment to environmental sustainability but these awards indicate that the projects have also achieved whole-of-development excellence,” Mr Hailey said.

“It is compelling evidence that sustainability can be successfully integrated into mainstream developments – something which we will be seeing more of in the future,” he said.

“Ten years ago there were few developers who were pioneering new designs and technologies in what was then a niche ‘green’ market.

“But we have a come a long way since then to the point where sustainable features are being incorporated into mainstream projects and the industry is harnessing the growing market desire for these values,” he said.

**The EcoVillage at Currumbin** was one of the big winners on the night - taking out two categories – Small Residential Subdivision and Marketing Excellence – as well as achieving finalist status in the Sustainable Development and Marketing Excellence categories. **Pacific Harbour** at Bribie Island received the Residential Subdivision award - a highly competitive UDIA category.

Another two EnviroDevelopments, **Coomera Waters** and **Trevean Gardens**, achieved finalist positions for the Marketing Excellence and Small Residential Subdivision categories respectively.

The EnviroDevelopment certification and branding system, launched in October 2006, provides independent verification of leading edge environmental outcomes within specific areas of sustainability.

The first five residential developments to trial the system and ultimately be awarded certification were The EcoVillage at Currumbin, Mebbin Springs (Northern NSW), Redland Bay Leisure Life, Coomera Waters and Pacific Harbour at Bribie Island. Trevean Gardens at Highlands outside of Toowoomba has since become the sixth certified project.

Research conducted on the first five pilot projects has already indicated water savings in the order of 380 Olympic sized swimming pools and greenhouse gas savings the equivalent of removing 3,500 cars off the road will be made each year.

Mr Hailey confirmed around 12 other major development projects were in various stages of application for EnviroDevelopment certification.

ENDS.

Media:

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