



Glas Cymru Cyfyngedig

# Press Release

10th January 2001

For Immediate Release

## **Glas Cymru details its Procurement Plan Comparisons between Water and Rail are misguided**

Commenting on Glas Cymru's procurement plan, Director, Nigel Annett said,

From the very outset of our discussions with Ofwat, the Environment Agency and the Drinking Water Inspectorate, a major priority for us all has been to ensure that Glas Cymru's procurement strategy puts quality and safety first.

This is a top priority for all Welsh Water's customers, employees and the wider community in Wales. It is an issue on which Glas Cymru is firmly focused.

Glas believes that the comparisons between its plans and Railtrack are misguided. In a letter to The Economist (attached) which responds to some of the Railtrack comparisons Glas states that:

- Unlike the rail sector there will only ever be one company providing the full range of operating services in any geographical area, with a single line of responsibility through to Welsh Water
- Moreover, like the rest of the water industry, Welsh Water already out-sources its entire capital investment programme which accounts for some 60% of Welsh Water's annual cash spend
- This is not a step into the unknown therefore, and indeed it is exactly the way the water industry is managed in many other countries. (and increasingly so in Scotland through PFI and DBFO schemes)

*A briefing paper detailing Glas Cymru's procurement and out-sourcing plan is available to on our website [www.glascymru.com](http://www.glascymru.com) or call 020 7861 3100 to have a copy faxed to you. ENDS.*

### **Contacts**

#### Glas

Lord Burns / Nigel Annett 020 7861 3100

Geraint Talfan Davies 029 2031 6666

Chris Jones 029 2031 6666

#### Keith McDowall Associates

David Hill / James O Keefe 020 7861 3100

#### Strategy Wales

Huw Roberts 029 20 316666