



# The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

## Premier of NSW

### Minister for Western Sydney

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Monday 17 March 2014

### STATEMENT FROM THE PREMIER ON OPERATION CREDO

I note in his opening statement Senior Counsel Assisting the ICAC in the matter of Operation Credo said today: *“we have looked carefully at the activities of Mr O’Farrell and Mr Pearce and we have found no evidence to implicate either in any corruption.”*

Senior Counsel also stated: *“as Counsel Assisting we have come to a preliminary view that the current agreement with Australian Water Holdings is fair and proper, and that it was the result of an appropriate compromise made in the context of inherently risky litigation. Contrary to some speculation in the press, as things presently stand we have been unable to detect anything about it which would suggest that the current agreement was a product of corrupt conduct.”*

As I’ve always stated, matters relating to AWH were appropriately handled at arm’s length by Sydney Water.

I have been a consistent and strong supporter of ICAC and have led reforms since coming to office in March 2011 which strengthened its powers. When requested by the Commissioner, the NSW Government has given the ICAC extra resources to fulfil its responsibilities.

The NSW Government is determined to restore trust in the public institutions of NSW and will continue to implement public sector integrity and accountability reforms, and respect and uphold good governance and proper process.

The NSW Government is determined to respect all statutory requirements of the ICAC Act and accordingly will not make any further statements about the ICAC's Operation Credo and related enquiries until ICAC has concluded its work.