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MEDIA RELEASE

AURORA ENERGY FLINDERS ISLAND SUPPORTS THE FLYING DOCTOR

The Aurora Energy Flinders Island team has reached their 12th continuous year of safe working practice and nominated the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) as the beneficiary of a donation of \$3,000.

The Safety Incentive Scheme initiated by Aurora Energy Network Services recognises safe working achievements. When a workgroup achieves 12 months without sustaining a lost time injury the team is given the opportunity of making a donation to a nominated charity.

The Aurora Energy donation reflects the importance RFDS has to the residents of Flinders Island. The RFDS Tasmanian Section supports the Tasmanian community through projects such as the Flinders Island Dental Clinic by paying airfares for dental personnel and has also recently provided \$56,000 to upgrade the dental surgery on Flinders Island. The dental service cares for public and private patients.

Mrs Gillian Woods, Life Member of the RFDS Tasmanian Section, accepted the donation from Patrick Simmons, Aurora Energy at a ceremony on Flinders Island. Mrs Woods, a resident of Flinders Island for many years and an accomplished classical pianist, has organised and presented 15 annual fund-raising musical soirees to support the work of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

"I am delighted to receive this donation from Aurora Energy on behalf of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. We appreciate their generosity" Mrs Woods said.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service is the world's largest aeromedical organisation. This non-sectarian, humanitarian, charitable organisation extends its Mantle of Safety to about 90% of Australia. Tasmania also falls under this mantle of safety, having been established here since 1960. The Service is contracted to Ambulance Tasmania.

While many people associate the RFDS with outback Australia, there are people living in rural Tasmania and on the surrounding islands who are just as isolated and in just as much need of access to medical care as those living in the outback. In addition there are also people who require air transport between Tasmanian cities in order to access specialised services.

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