

## Media release

*\*\*\*To be published in the Vanuatu Daily Post, the Official Gazette of the Republic of Vanuatu and on the URA website*

On 21 September 2015, the Utilities Regulatory Authority (URA) published its Final Decision and Order in the matter of reviewing water tariffs for UNELCO in Port Vila (Case U-0022-14) (**Final Decision**) in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Vanuatu. The public was further notified that the URA had issued the Final Decision in an article that appeared in the Vanuatu Daily Post on 22 September 2015 and on the URA's website.

On 13 November 2015, Justice Saksak in the Supreme Court of Vanuatu granted an interlocutory injunction restraining the Republic of Vanuatu and the URA from taking any steps to implement the Final Decision until final judgment is handed down by the Supreme Court in Judicial Review 30 of 2015.

Therefore, the Final Decision (and any consequential adjustments to the water tariff) will have no effect until Judicial Review 30 of 2015 has been heard and determined by the Supreme Court of Vanuatu.

In the interim, UNELCO will continue to bill customers in accordance with the terms of the Contract for the Management and Operation of the Water Supply Service in Port Vila (as amended), which amounts remain payable under any applicable subscription agreement.

Currently it is expected that Judicial Review 30 of 2015 will not be heard and determined until early 2016.