

for Investors, Society and the Environment

# **ASX Announcement**

ASX Code: AEF Date: 8 September 2006

## **AEI** full year results

The Chair of the Australian Ethical Board, Mr George Pooley, is pleased to announce that the Australian Ethical group (Australian Ethical Investment Ltd and its wholly owned subsidiary, Australian Ethical Superannuation Pty Ltd) has recorded a consolidated net profit after income tax expense for the year ending 30 June 2006 of \$1,362,612.

This trading result represents a 74% increase over the previous financial year's net profit of \$784,419. Over the year-to-date, Australian Ethical experienced a growth in funds under management and consequent increase in revenue. As at 30 June 2006, funds under management were \$417M (ex. distribution). This compares with funds under management as at 30 June 2005 of \$311M (ex. distribution). The distribution amount for the current period was \$41M, compared to a distribution the previous year of \$48M.

Funds under management now stand in excess of \$450M.

#### Rewarding shareholders

The directors have declared that a final dividend of 50 cents per ordinary share (fully franked) be paid to shareholders out of the profits of the financial year ending 30 June 2006. This is in addition to the interim dividend of 35 cents per ordinary share paid in March 2006. The total dividend for the year will be 85 cents per share, an increase of 18% over the 72 cents per ordinary share paid in respect of the previous financial year.

The dividend will be paid as follows:

Code	Div Amount per share	Ex Div Date	Record Date	<u>Date</u> Payable	% Franked	<u>Type</u>
AEF	50 cents	25/9/2006	29/9/2006	5/10/2006	100%	Final

For further information contact: Anne O'Donnell, Chief Executive Officer

### Giving back to the Community

The trading result of \$1,362,612 is net of a provision for payment of part of the company's profits to community groups. The constitution of Australian Ethical requires ten percent of its annual profits to be donated to conservation, benevolent and charity organisations.

The total amount expected to be paid in 2006 is \$170,132. This will be the largest grant ever made by Australian Ethical, and means that Australian Ethical has donated over \$400,000 back into the community over the last nine years. Australian Ethical is extremely proud of its record of community grants.

The application process for the community grants program is underway and the selection of grants will be finalised in September 2006. Recipients of grants are detailed on the company's website.

George Pooley Chair

#### Company Background

Australian Ethical Investment Ltd is a funds manager that specialises exclusively in ethical funds management. Four managed investment schemes and corresponding superannuation strategies (for accumulation and pension accounts) are offered: the Australian Ethical Large Companies Share Trust, the Australian Ethical Equities Trust, the Australian Ethical Balanced Trust and the Australian Ethical Income Trust. The Australian Ethical Charter is the foundation of the investment process. It aims to avoid harmful investments and actively seeks investments that benefit society and the environment. Uniquely, the company's constitution requires that 10% of profit is donated to charitable and conservation initiatives.