



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

21 April 2008

### **LIGHTHOUSE AND VIRIDIS SIGN JOINT VENTURE TO INVEST IN CLEAN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS GLOBALLY**

Lighthouse Infrastructure Group ("Lighthouse") and Viridis Energy Capital Pty Limited ("Viridis") today announced the signing of a joint venture to pursue early stage clean energy development projects globally through the Lighthouse Viridis Clean Energy Development Fund (the "Fund").

The Fund has been established to originate, develop and own projects that utilise clean energy technologies and fuels such as wind, hydro, biomass, geothermal, solar, waste fuel, coal seam methane and natural gas.

The Fund is available to wholesale investors, providing early access to a global pipeline of clean energy development projects, in a sustainable and growing asset class.

Managing Director of Lighthouse, Mr Mitch King said, "The Lighthouse Viridis Clean Energy Development Fund is an exciting new initiative in a growing and important part of the infrastructure market. Lighthouse expects that the joint venture with Viridis will produce a significant number of investment opportunities for investors in the Fund."

Chief Executive Officer of Viridis, Mr Edward Northam commented, "Globally, clean energy is forecast to represent over 1,600 GW or over 50% of new electricity capacity by 2030 if governments adopt their renewable energy targets. The forecast growth in the world's renewable energy capacity over this period is the equivalent of installing new generation capacity equal to Australia's entire current system capacity every 9 months."

Viridis also manages the ASX-listed Viridis Clean Energy Group ("VCEG"), an energy infrastructure fund invested in a global portfolio of 52 operating projects in the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Germany, with a total installed capacity of 200 MW (VCEG equity share).

"The establishment of the Lighthouse Viridis Clean Energy Development Fund is a logical extension to our existing investment activities in clean energy infrastructure",

said Mr Northam. “Though separate and distinct from the activities of VCEG, the Fund will now enable us to access attractive investment opportunities for our investors across the entire project lifecycle. The Fund offers VCEG the right to purchase ownership interests in projects once they are developed.”

The joint venture combines the investment and infrastructure skills of Lighthouse with the expertise and proven track record of Viridis in the global clean energy industry.

Lighthouse executives have more than 25 years combined international infrastructure experience. This includes the completion of over 20 transactions globally, investing over \$1 billion in unlisted infrastructure assets, and actively managing and adding value to assets and servicing fund investors.

The Viridis team brings considerable global experience having developed, financed and managed more than 80 clean energy projects in eight countries over 20 years. Viridis has built an extensive industry network which is expected to deliver to the Fund a steady pipeline of investment opportunities.

**Any further enquiries:**

Mitch King  
Lighthouse Infrastructure  
03 9093 9032  
[www.lighthouseinfrastructure.com](http://www.lighthouseinfrastructure.com)

Edward Northam  
Viridis Energy Capital  
03 9677 8008  
[www.viridisenergy.com](http://www.viridisenergy.com)