



## **\$2M TO RAPIDLY HUNT DOWN DIARRHOEA-CAUSING BUG**

Three research groups will each get close to \$2 million to carry out research and development on the rapid detection of the parasite *Cryptosporidium* — which can cause diarrhoea — in drinking water worldwide.

Two of the teams are from Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and one from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The Environment and Water Industry Development Council (EWI) issued a Call

for Request-for-Proposals in the area of rapid microbial detection last July.

Applicants were given the challenge to develop new monitoring and sensing solutions that can detect, in under an hour, the presence and viability of the parasite in drinking water.

Current techniques require about six hours or more.

EWI's director for capability development Harry Seah said the reduction in detection time will enable water agencies worldwide to monitor the water quality more efficiently. 938LIVE