

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Pressure sewer partnership knocks up double century

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**21 March 2016**

South East Water, in partnership with South Gippsland Water, last week completed installation of the 200th in-ground pressure sewer pump unit as part of the ground-breaking Poowong, Loch and Nyora Sewer Scheme.

In an industry-first collaboration, the two water authorities are working together to connect more than 370 properties across the three South Gippsland townships to a reticulated pressure sewer system, tackling the growing public health and environmental problems caused by failing septic systems.

Under the partnership, South Gippsland Water is responsible for the overall funding, as well as defining the scope and project requirements, and managing community and customer engagement. South East Water is responsible for network design & construction, and managing connections to the scheme.

Through the collaboration, South Gippsland Water is able to deliver a much needed piece of infrastructure to its customers ahead of time and at significantly less cost than a traditional gravity sewer network.

The sewer scheme involves the installation of a pressure sewer pump in a small storage tank at each house, which connect to a reticulated network. Central to the design is a remote control telemetry system, called OneBox, designed and developed by South East Water, which manages property connections on a real time basis, regulating flows of waste into the network to optimise capacity.

Its ability to smooth peak flows means that pipes across the network can be much smaller, and aided by horizontal directional drilling, the need for expensive and large scale excavation is eliminated. The number of pumping stations required to transport the waste-water to South East Water's Lang Lang Recycling Plant is also reduced.

The project builds on a number of successful pressure sewer projects delivered by South East Water, including the Peninsula ECO, which aims to connect more than 16,500 properties when completed.

South Gippsland Water Managing Director, Philippe du Plessis commented today, "South East Water is perfectly positioned to offer specialist services that support sewerage solutions for regional communities. Leveraging off their pressure sewer expertise has allowed South Gippsland Water to deliver a sewerage network on an accelerated construction timeline and at reduced cost".

"South East Water is pleased to partner with South Gippsland Water in delivering a significant and positive environmental outcome for the region," said Kevin Hutchings, South East Water Managing Director.

"This innovative partnership demonstrates the importance of collaboration in tackling today's infrastructure challenges, and the value that working together creates for our customers."

**Customers have until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 to take advantage of subsidised connection charges. For further information, customers can contact the Connections & Construction Team on 1800 728 256.**

#### Media contacts

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