

Water Security, Treatment & Supply

Fact Sheet 4 – JULY 2018



The Lance Creek Water Connection will secure the water supply needs of Korumburra, Poowong, Loch and Nyora over the next 50 years.

The project connects these townships with South Gippsland Water's largest reservoir, Lance Creek, which is connected to the Melbourne Water Supply System.

The combination of these systems will secure water supply for the area and provide a dependable environment for community development, economic growth and future investment within the region.

The project has a total cost of some \$43 million and, in 2016, was successful in acquiring Victorian Government funding of \$30 million.

WATER SECURITY

The Lance Creek Water Connection is a key component in South Gippsland Water's long-term strategy to secure water supply for the region. In future years, South Gippsland's catchment yields will reduce due to factors such as climate variability, population growth and economic development, and will not meet the growth and water demands for the townships of Korumburra, Poowong, Loch and Nyora.

The townships of Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cape Paterson are currently supplied by the Lance Creek Water Treatment Plant and, as a result of the pipeline, will be provided with a secure water supply backed-up by access to the Melbourne Supply System.

Connection to the Melbourne Water Supply will minimise the likelihood of staged water restrictions for these townships during periods of low rainfall and drought.

TREATING GREATER VOLUMES OF WATER

When the Lance Creek Water Connection is commissioned, greater volumes of water will be processed at the Lance Creek and Korumburra water treatment plants in order to supply Korumburra, Poowong, Loch and Nyora and to continue supply to Wonthaggi, Cape Paterson and Inverloch.

The Lance Creek Water Supply System will deliver an average of 8 million litres of water per day to around 60% of South Gippsland Water's customers.

In addition to water sourced from the Lance Creek Reservoir, the project enables South Gippsland Water to utilise an existing connection to the Melbourne Water Supply System which provides access to water from Cardinia Reservoir and the Victorian Desalination Plant.

As a result, slight adjustments in the treatment process at the Lance Creek Water Treatment Plant will enable water to be blended and treated effectively. A new pump station is being built and a number of chemical dosing systems are being upgraded.

Water distributed by the Lance Creek Water Treatment Plant will be chloraminated and fluoridated. This will ensure customers are supplied with safe drinking water that meets world-class standards and Department of Health regulations.

CHLORAMINATION AND FLUORIDATION

Customers in Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cape Paterson are already supplied with water that is chloraminated and fluoridated and, as a result of this new pipeline, Korumburra, Poowong, Loch and Nyora will now be supplied with similarly treated water.

Chloramination is one of the most commonly used treatment agents in the processing of safe drinking water. Towns supplied by South Gippsland Water receive high quality water treated to the Australian Standards set out in the [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#) (2011).

As a result of the Lance Creek Water Connection, residents of Korumburra, Poowong, Loch and Nyora will join the 90% of Victorians who already benefit from fluoridated water.

The fluoridation of water supply is a requirement of the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services. The safe and effective addition of fluoride to drinking water is regulated by the [Safe Drinking Water Act 2003](#).

The fluoridation of drinking water contributes to overall health, wellbeing and quality of life. For further information, contact the Department of Health and Human Services or visit: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/water>

SHORT-TERM TASTE AND ODOUR CONSIDERATIONS

Upgrades to enhance the Lance Creek Water Treatment Plant's capacity to blend, treat and process greater volumes of water are nearing a point where testing can commence. Customers in these towns are advised that they may notice a slight change in the taste and smell of their water as these upgraded systems are tested and brought online.

Water Treatment Operators will do their utmost to ensure that the water supplied has minimal noticeable change in taste and smell. As always, water will remain safe to drink throughout the changes at the Lance Creek Water Treatment Plant.

CARING FOR AQUARIUMS AND FISH PONDS

Chlorine and/or chloramine in the water supply is not harmful to land animals or house plants, but certain levels may be toxic to fish.

It is important to treat tap water to remove chloramines before adding it to your aquarium or pond. Chloramines are generally removed using aquarium water conditioning agents containing a de-chlorinating agent, or by filtration through high-quality granular activated carbon.

Local pet shops, vets or aquarium retailers are able to provide further information in regards to a range of treatment options that will make chloraminated tap water safe for aquarium fish.

KEEPING UP-TO-DATE

To find out more about the Lance Creek Water Connection and to receive regular updates, visit the Project page at www.sgwater.com.au. Also follow us on Facebook and Twitter @SthGippsWater.

